Chingis Khan
成吉思汗
チンギスハーン
2

[カバーフォト]
DEBORAH DAVIS／CTSフォトニカ

Chingis Khan
成吉思汗
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2

Mitsuteru Yokoyama
横山光輝

咆哮の巻

Akita Bunko

チンギスハーン 2

横山光輝

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横山光輝（よこやまみつてる）

本名，横山光照。1934年（昭和9年）6月18日、
兵庫県神戸市須磨区に生まれる。
1954年「音無しの剣」でデビュー。
1956年「鉄人28号」で第一線に躍り出て、
1962年「伊賀の影丸」で不動の地位を確立する。
以来、少年、少女から青年誌まで、
時代、歴史ものからSFに到るまで、
あらゆるジャンルの傑作を数多く生みだしている。
1991年「三国志」で
第20回日本漫画家協会賞優秀賞を受賞。
代表作品「鉄人28号」「伊賀の影丸」「バビル2世」
「マーズ」「その名は101」「チンギスハーン」
「あばれ天童」「おてんば天使」「魔法使いサリー」
「三国志」など多数。

Chingis Khan
成吉思汗

チンギスハーン

Chinggis Khan
Volume 2
Howls of Wolves

Yokoyama
Mitsuteru

Akita Bunko

Chingis Khan
成吉思汗

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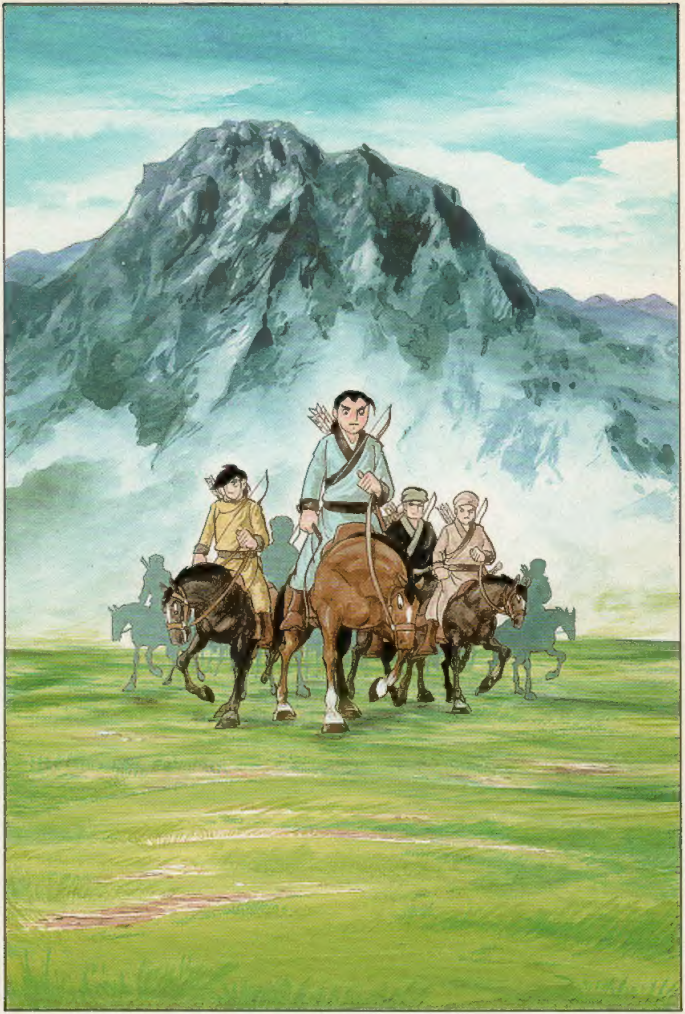
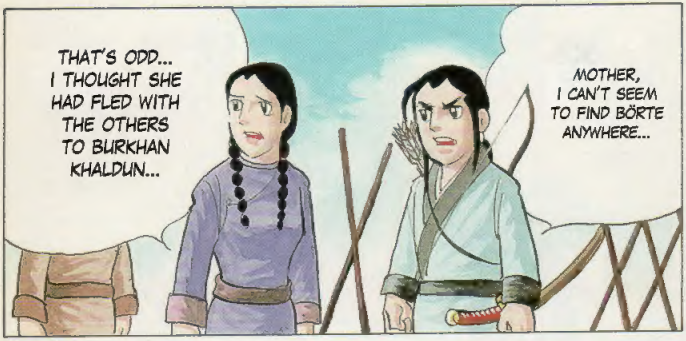
Translated by Sox
Edited by Happyscans

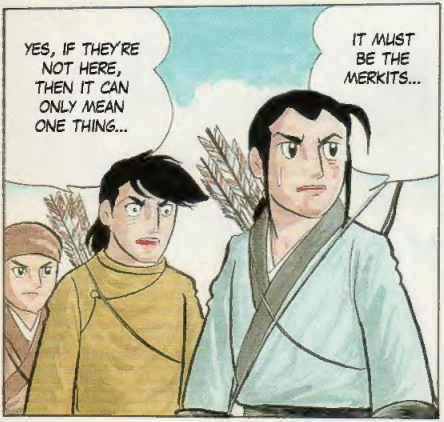
Tooth for Tooth



THEY'VE RUN OFF WITH EVERYTHING...
CURSE THOSE DAMNED MERKITS!

HMM?


THAT'S ODD... I THOUGHT SHE HAD FLED WITH THE OTHERS TO BURKHAN KHALDUN...
MOTHER, I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND BÖRTE ANYWHERE...


YES, IF THEY'RE NOT HERE, THEN IT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING...
IT MUST BE THE MERKITS...

TEMUCHIN! MY MOTHER IS GONE!

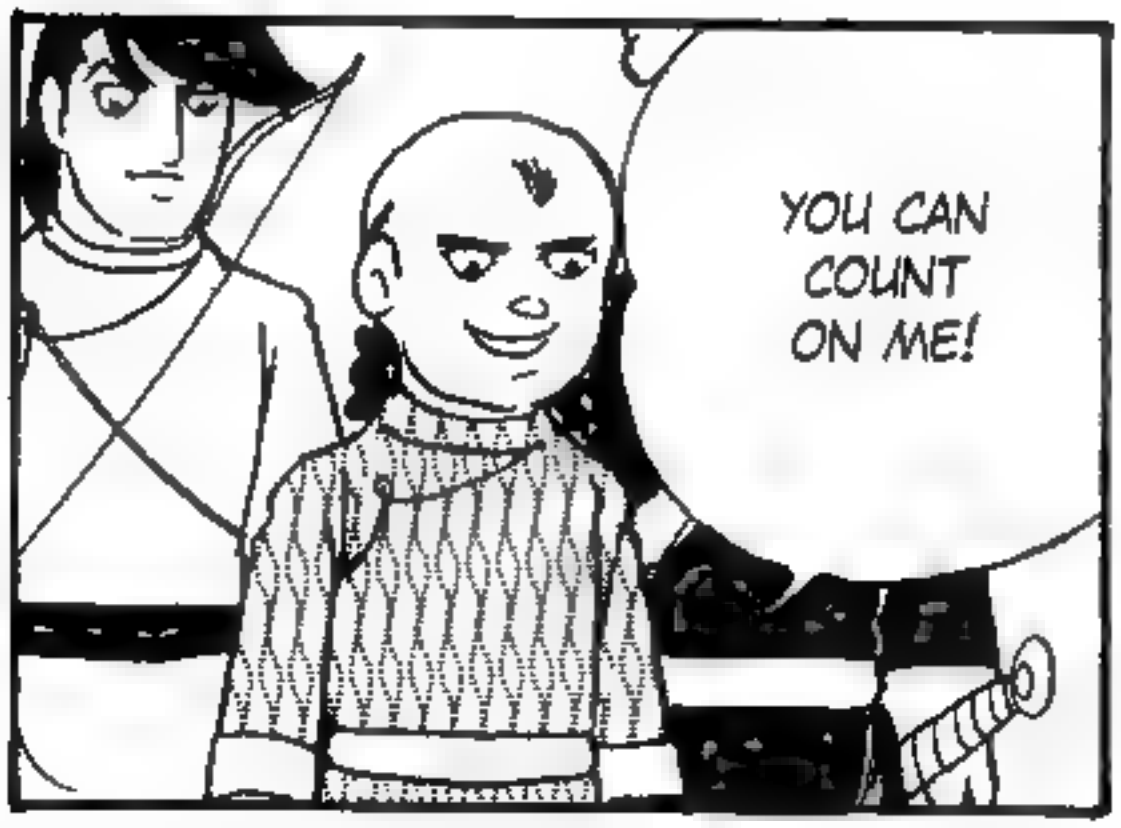
WE MUST GO RESCUE THEM AT ONCE!
SO YOU'RE ABANDONING THEM!?
I SHARE YOUR CONCERN, BELGUTEI, BUT THERE ARE 10,000 MERKITS. RUSHING TO THEIR AID IS TO RUSH ONLY TO OUR DEATHS.
NO, I WILL SAVE THEM! BUT TO SUCCEED, WE MUST FIRST SCOUT OUT THE MERKITS.

YES, TEMUCHIN?

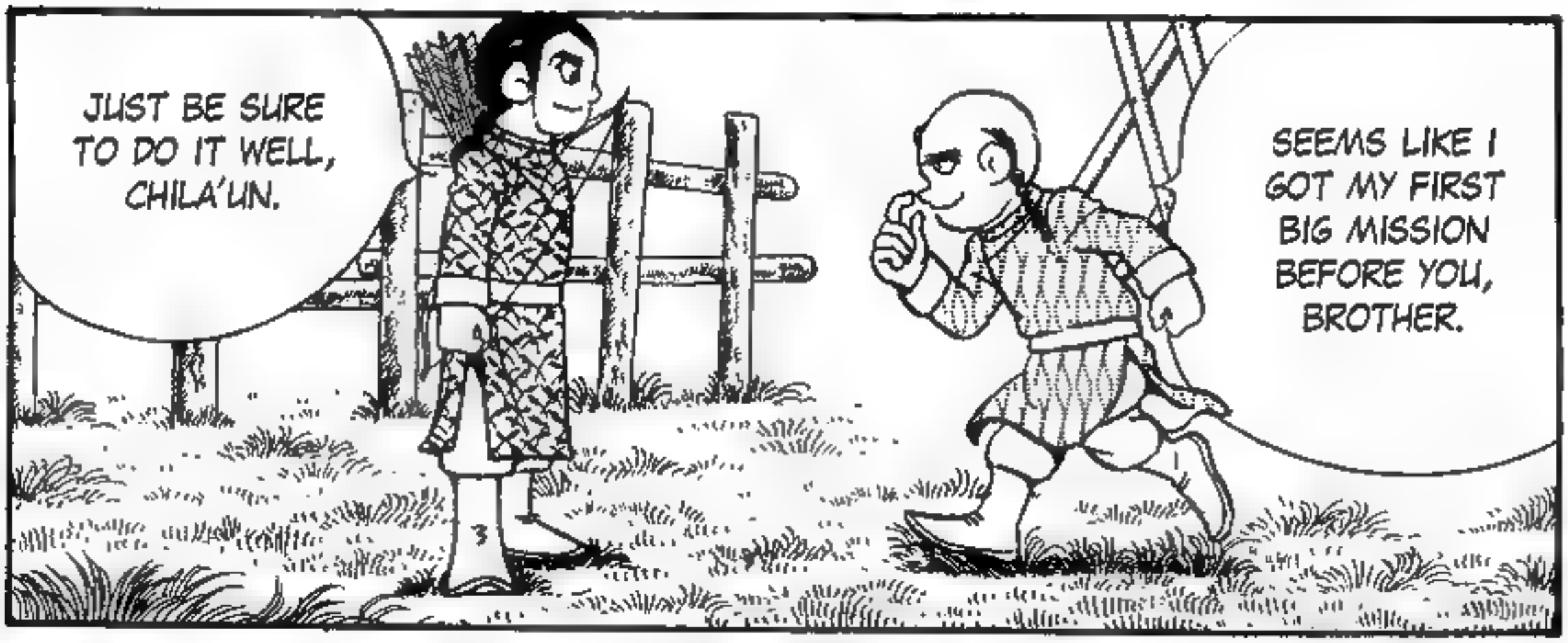
CHILA'UN.

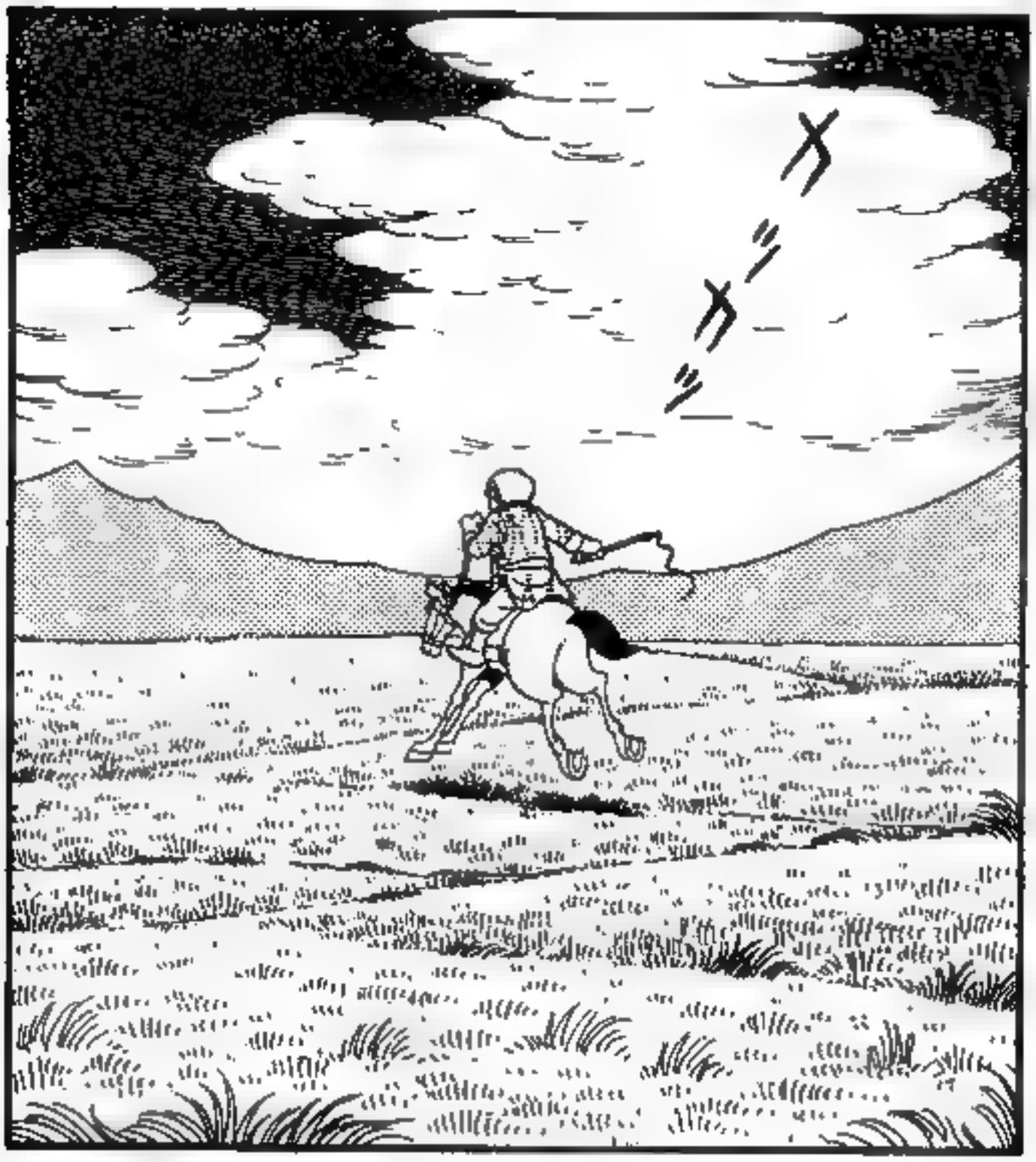
SOUNDS LIKE A BIG JOB.

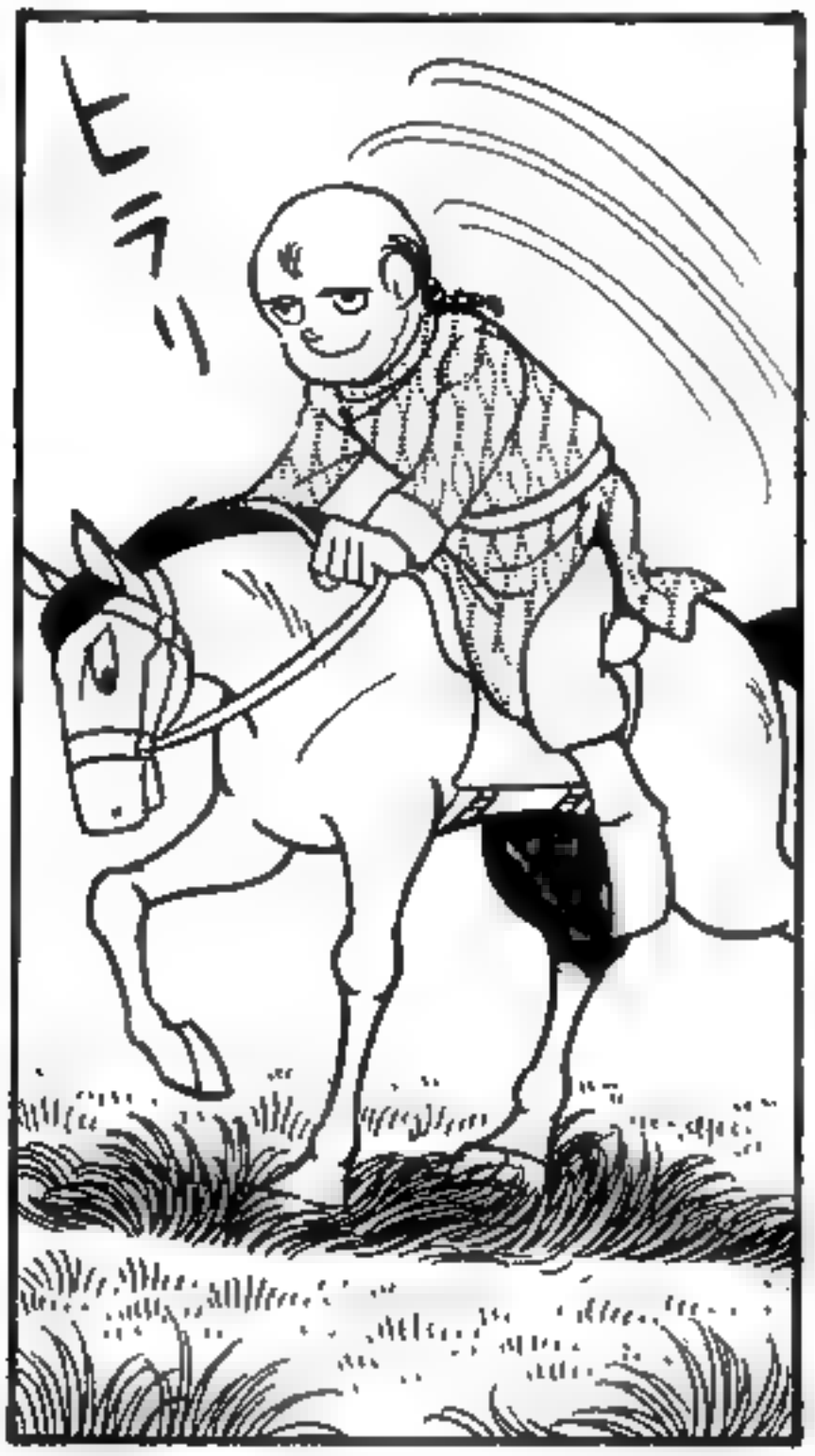
GO FIND THE MERKITS AND SEE WHAT HAS BECOME TO BÖRTE AND KO'AGCHIN.


YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!

YES, BUT THEY WON'T GIVE MUCH THOUGHT TO A VISITING STEPPE CHILD. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PULL IT OFF.


JUST BE SURE TO DO IT WELL, CHILA'UN.
SEEMS LIKE I GOT MY FIRST BIG MISSION BEFORE YOU, BROTHER.



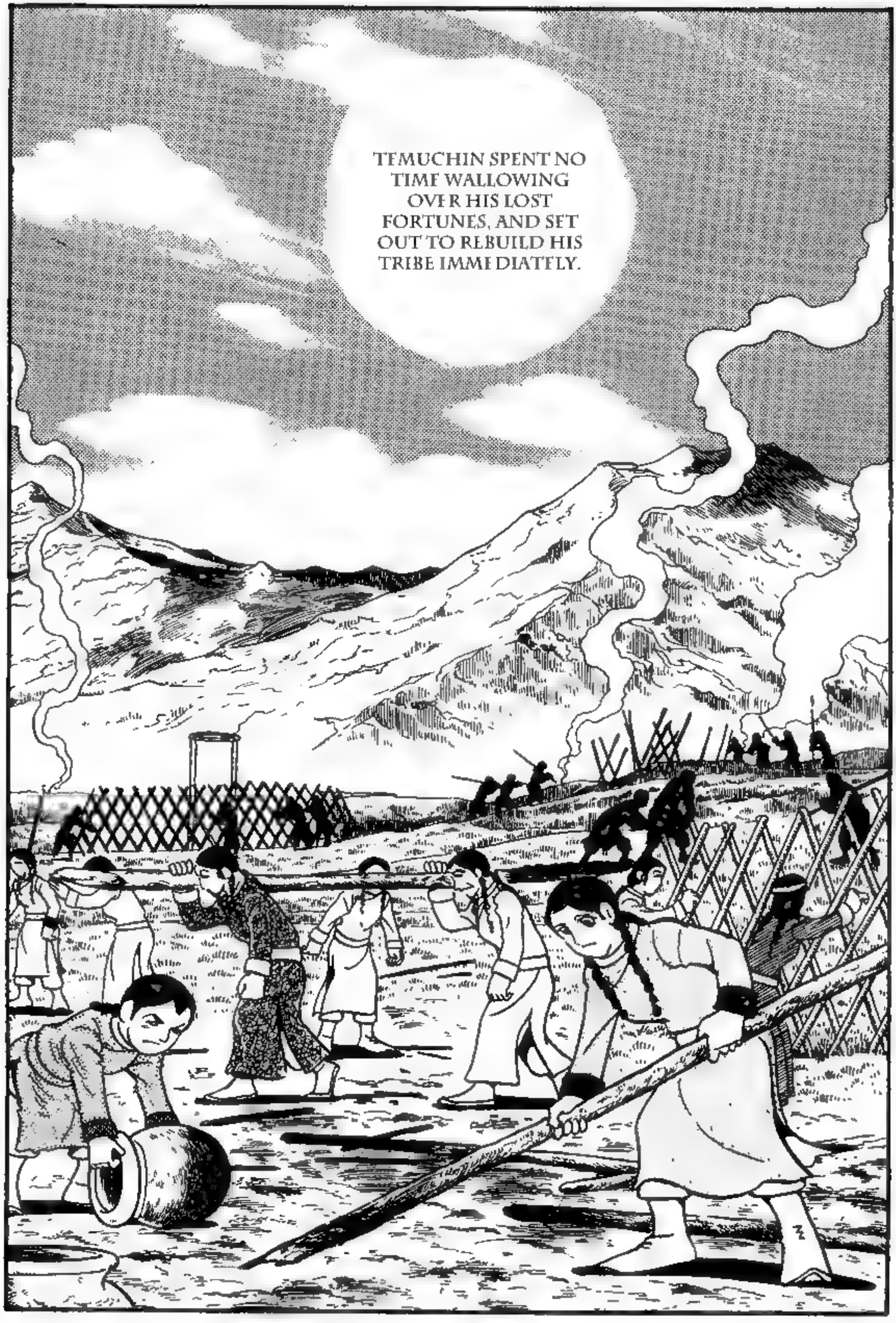


ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE TO BEGIN SETTING UP NEW GERS!

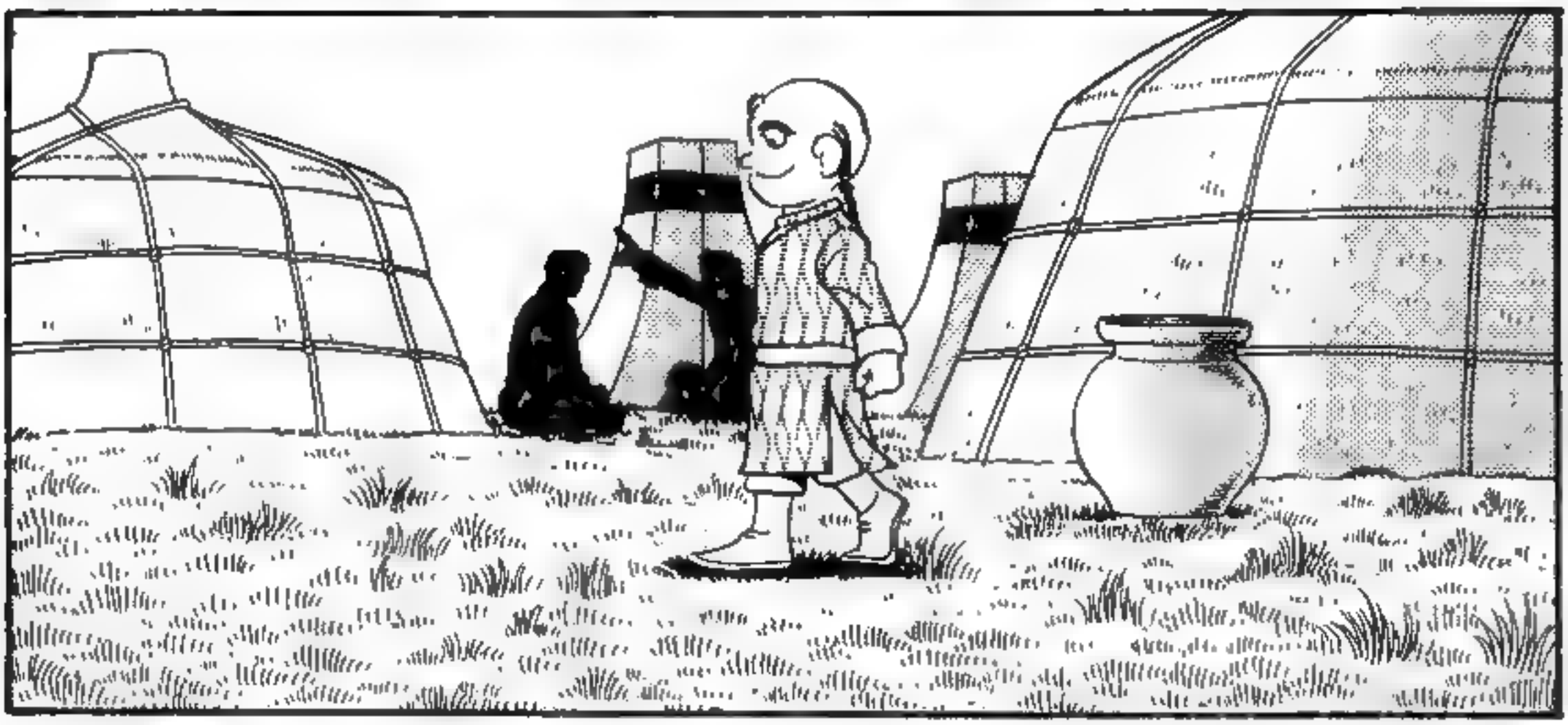
RIGHT.

AS FOR US MEN, WE WILL SECURE PROVISIONS BY HUNTING!

LET'S GET TO WORK SO NONE OF THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN STARVE.


TEMUCHIN SPENT NO TIME WALLOWING OVER HIS LOST FORTUNES, AND SET OUT TO REBUILD HIS TRIBE IMMEDIATELY.

MERKIT
CAMPS



?

HELLO THERE, MISTERS!

I'M FROM A FAMILY CAMPED OVER THERE.

WHOSE KID ARE YOU?

SO WHAT IF WE DID?

I HEARD YOU RECENTLY BATTLED THE MONGOLS!

HAHA. A WARRIOR, EH?

I WANT TO BECOME A BRAVE WARRIOR OF THE STEPPE TOO WHEN I GROW UP! CAN YOU SHARE SOME BATTLE STORIES?

WHOAAA! AND YOU BEAT THEM ALL!?

ALMOST TOO MANY TO COUNT. THEY MUST'VE OUTNUMBERED US BY AT LEAST THREE TIMES!

HOW MANY MONGOLS DID YOU FIGHT?

YOU'RE AMAZING!

パチパチ

OF COURSE! NUMBERS AIN'T ENOUGH TO SCARE US WARRIORS AWAY!

WE TOOK ALL THEIR LIVESTOCK!

HOW MUCH DID YOU PLUNDER?

OHH, ARE THEY PRETTY?
NOT ONLY THAT, THE WIFE AND SECOND MOTHER OF THE MONGOL LEADER WAS TAKEN CAPTIVE.

DID CHILEDU TAKE HER AS HIS WIFE THEN?

WELL ONE'S JUST AN OLD WOMAN, BUT THE OTHER'S A REAL BEAUTY.

?

OH NO, HE GAVE HER TO BE MADE THE WIFE OF A MAN FROM A MUCH LOWER CLASS. AFTER ALL, THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS RAID WAS REVENGE.

OH, I WASN'T AWARE OF THAT.

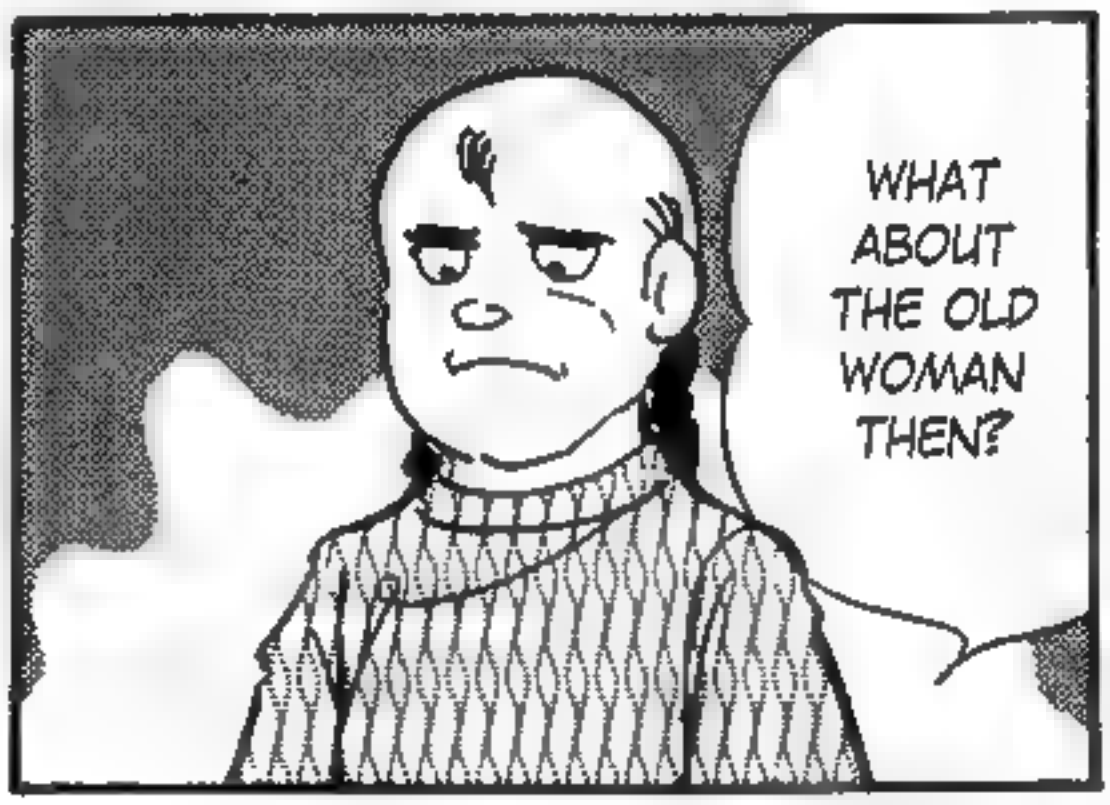
YOU SEE, 20 YEARS AGO, CHILEDU HAD HIS WIFE ROBBED BY YISUGEI, THE FORMER MONGOL LEADER.

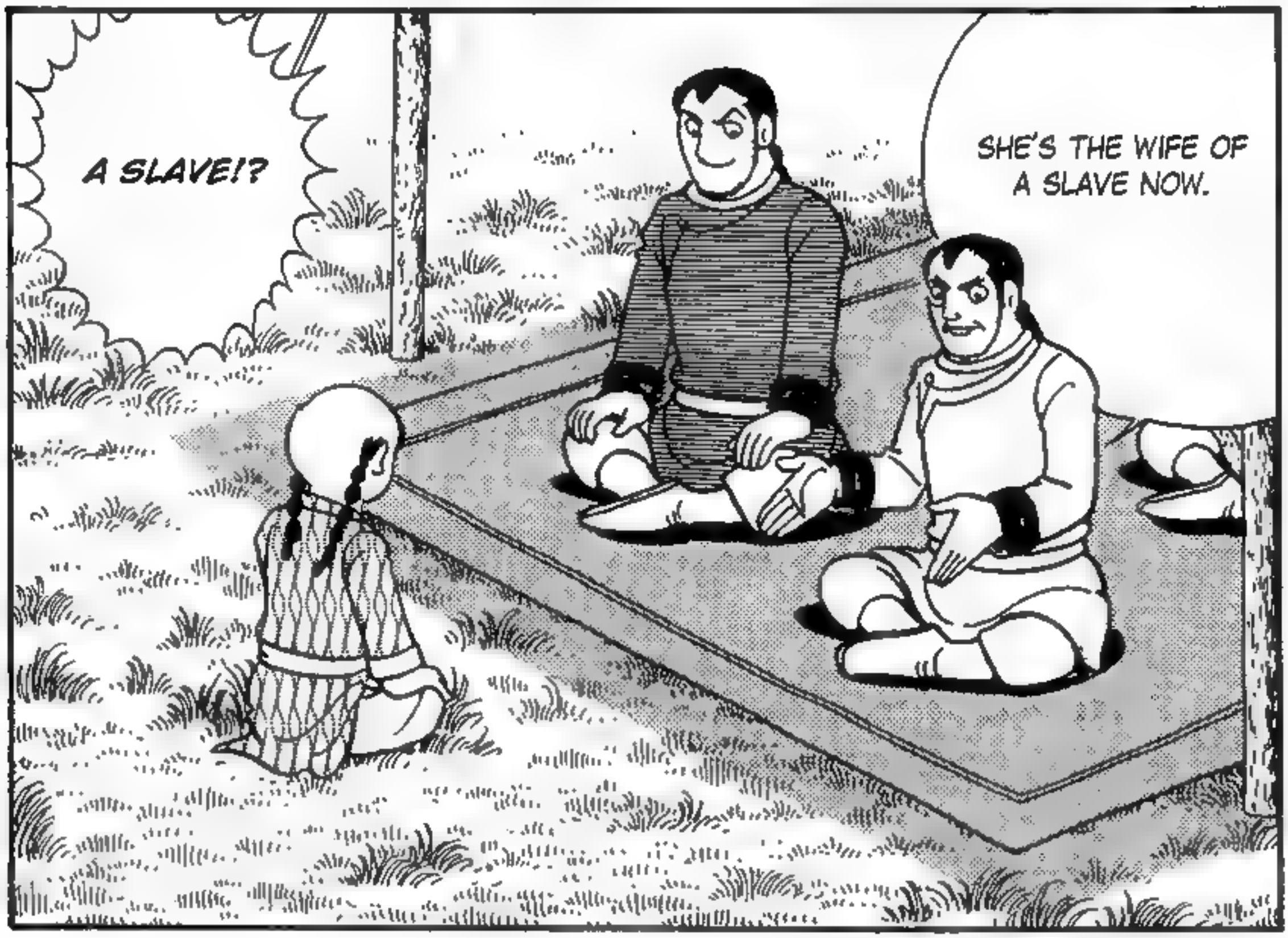
BUT THEN WHY DIDN'T HE TAKE HER AS HIS WIFE?

AND AFTER BIDING 20 YEARS FOR A OPPORTUNE TIME TO STRIKE, HE FINALLY HAD HIS REVENGE.

HAHA, THAT'S FAR TOO LENIENT... GIVING HER TO A MAN OF LOW-STANDING IS FAR MORE HUMILIATING, FOR BOTH HER AND TEMUCHIN.

YOU MEAN YISUGEI'S SECOND WIFE?


WHAT ABOUT THE OLD WOMAN THEN?


A SLAVE!?
SHE'S THE WIFE OF A SLAVE NOW.

HAHAHA! THERE'S NOTHING MORE UNBEARABLE FOR A WOMAN OF NOBLE-BIRTH LIKE HER!

YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN THE LOOK ON HER FACE WHEN CHILEDU TOLD HER SHE'D BE GIVEN TO SOME SLAVE.

LISTEN UP, KID. IF YOU'VE BEEN WRONGED ON THE STEPPE, YOU PAY YOUR ENEMIES BACK IN DOUBLE OR TRIPLE. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT TAKES 10 OR 20 YEARS. OTHERWISE, YOU'RE NOT A MAN.

THAT'S... QUITE A REVENGE...

THAT'S GOOD. GROW UP TO BE A WINNER. A TAKER.

RIGHT, I'LL REMEMBER THAT...

TAKE CARE, KID.

YES, I'LL TRY MY BEST.

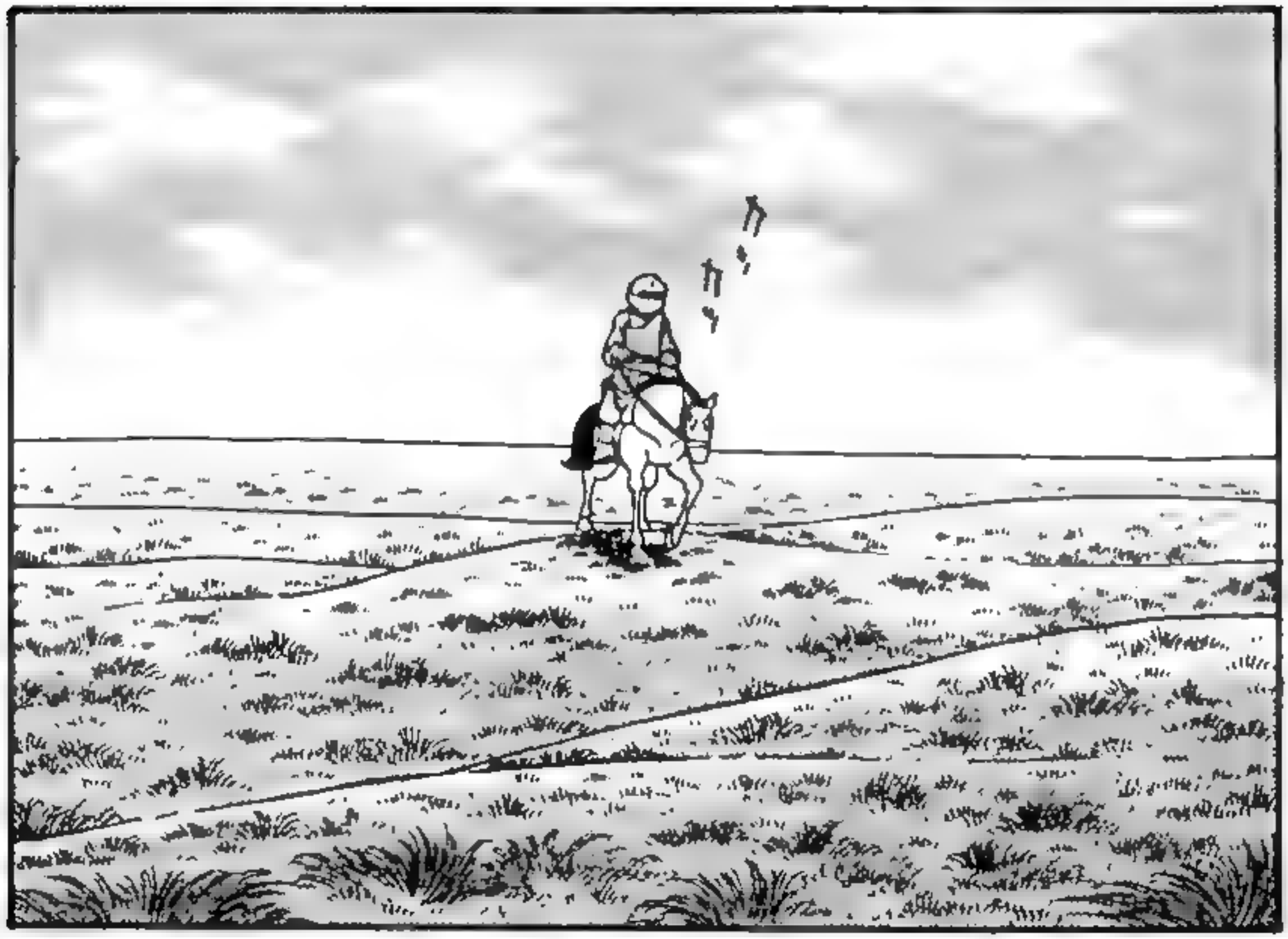
TEMUCHIN'S NOT GONNA LIKE THIS...

BURKHAN KHALDUN

YES, BUT WE MUST STILL MAKE UP FOR OUR LOST LIVESTOCK.

SEEMS LIKE WE'RE FINALLY BACK UP ON OUR FEET NOW.

TEMUCHIN, LOOK! CHILA'UN IS BACK!



YES, GOOD WORK MAKING IT BACK.

I'M BACK, TEMUCHIN.

UMM... ABOUT THAT...

DID YOU FIND WHAT HAPPENED TO BÖRTE?

GOOD IDEA.

WHY DON'T THE REST OF US GO HUNTING?

THE MEN TACTFULLY LEFT THE SCENE FOR THEY WERE WELL-AWARE OF THE FATES OF WOMEN CAPTURED IN RAIDS.

IN THE STEPPE, WOMEN CAPTURED IN RAIDS ARE MADE INTO WIVES OF THEIR CAPTORS...

THE OTHERS ARE GONE NOW. TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU FOUND OUT.

SHE'S BEEN GIVEN AWAY TO A LOWLY UNDERLING...

YES, I KNOW THAT. JUST TELL ME WHAT'S BECOME OF BÖRTE ALREADY.

SHE'S BEEN MADE THE WIFE OF A LOWLY UNDERLING!?

W... WELL...

WHAT ABOUT KO'AGCHIN!?

SHE'S BEEN MARRIED OFF TO A SLAVE...!

OUT WITH IT ALREADY!

T-TEMUCHIN! YOU'RE... CHOKING ME!

A WHAT!? BELGUTEI'S MOTHER... MY FATHER'S SECOND WIFE IS NOW... NOW...

MARRIED OFF TO A WHAT!?

WHY WOULD THE MERKITS GO ALL THE WAY TO SHAME ME SO!?

HUFF HUFF

NGHHH!

T-THEY SAID IT WAS REVENGE FOR YOUR FATHER STEALING CHILEDU'S WIFE!

I'M AFRAID THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

I'LL BRING THEM BACK AT ONCE...

THE MERKITS ARE WARY OF A COUNTER-ATTACK AND HAVE POSTED NUMEROUS GUARDS AROUND THEIR GERS AND SHOW NO SIGNS OF LETTING UP.

CURSES!

WE JUST DON'T HAVE THE NUMBERS TO CONTEND WITH THEM.

NGHH...

ATTACKING THEM NOW IS TO WALK RIGHT INTO A TRAP.

YES, YOU'RE RIGHT. WE MUST WAIT UNTIL THE ENEMIES LET DOWN THEIR GUARDS...

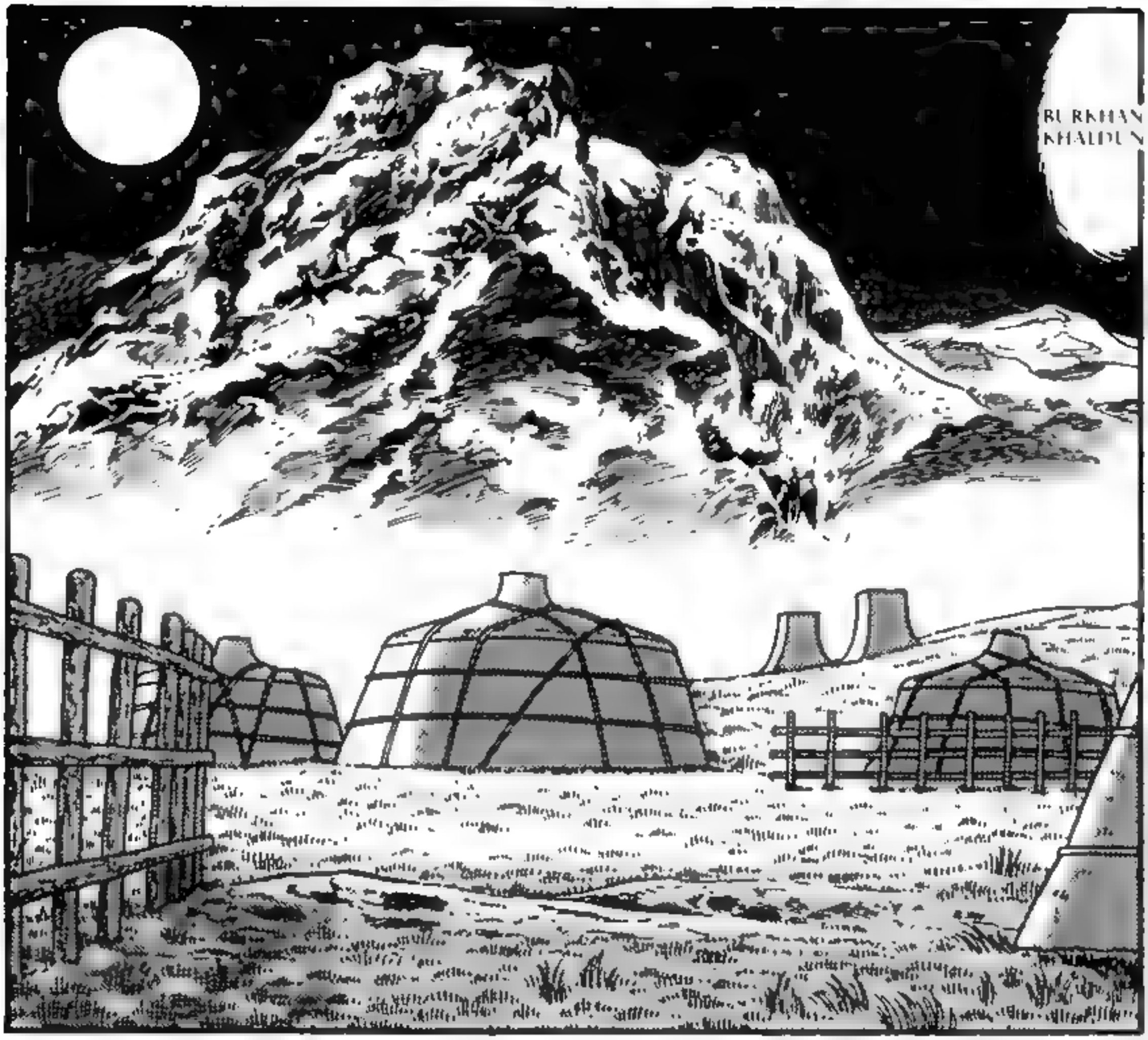
YES...

IN THE MEANTIME, DON'T SAY A ***WORD*** TO ANYONE ABOUT BELGUTEI'S MOTHER BEING A SLAVE'S WIFE.

FORGIVE ME, BÖRTE, BUT I SWEAR I'LL COME SAVE YOU...

CHILA'UN SCOUTED OUT THE MERKITS SEVERAL MORE TIMES SINCE THEN.

BUT THE MERKITS SHOWED NO SIGN OF LETTING THEIR GUARDS DOWN.


BURKHAN
KHALDUN

HM...
ACCORDING TO CHILA'UN'S REPORTS, WE STILL DON'T HAVE A CHANCE OF RESCUING THEM.

TEMUCHIN, HOW ABOUT WE GO SEEK AID FROM THE KEREIT KHAN, TOGHRUL?

THERE'S HARDLY ANYTHING WE CAN DO WHEN THE MERKITS NUMBER 10,000.

YES, HE DID TELL US TO CALL FOR HIS AID SHOULD WE EVER NEED IT WHEN WE LAST VISITED HIM.

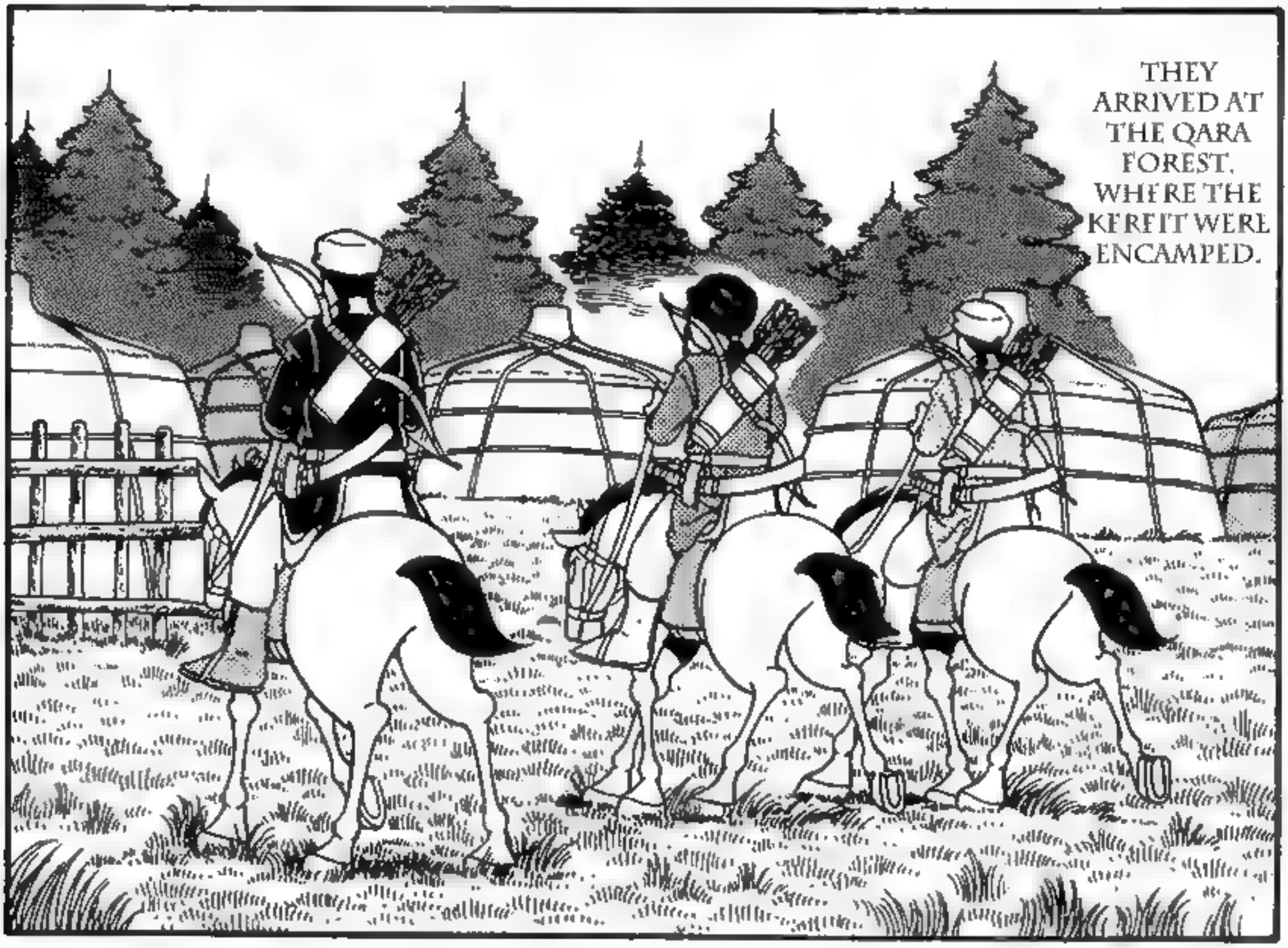
TOGHRUL KHAN?

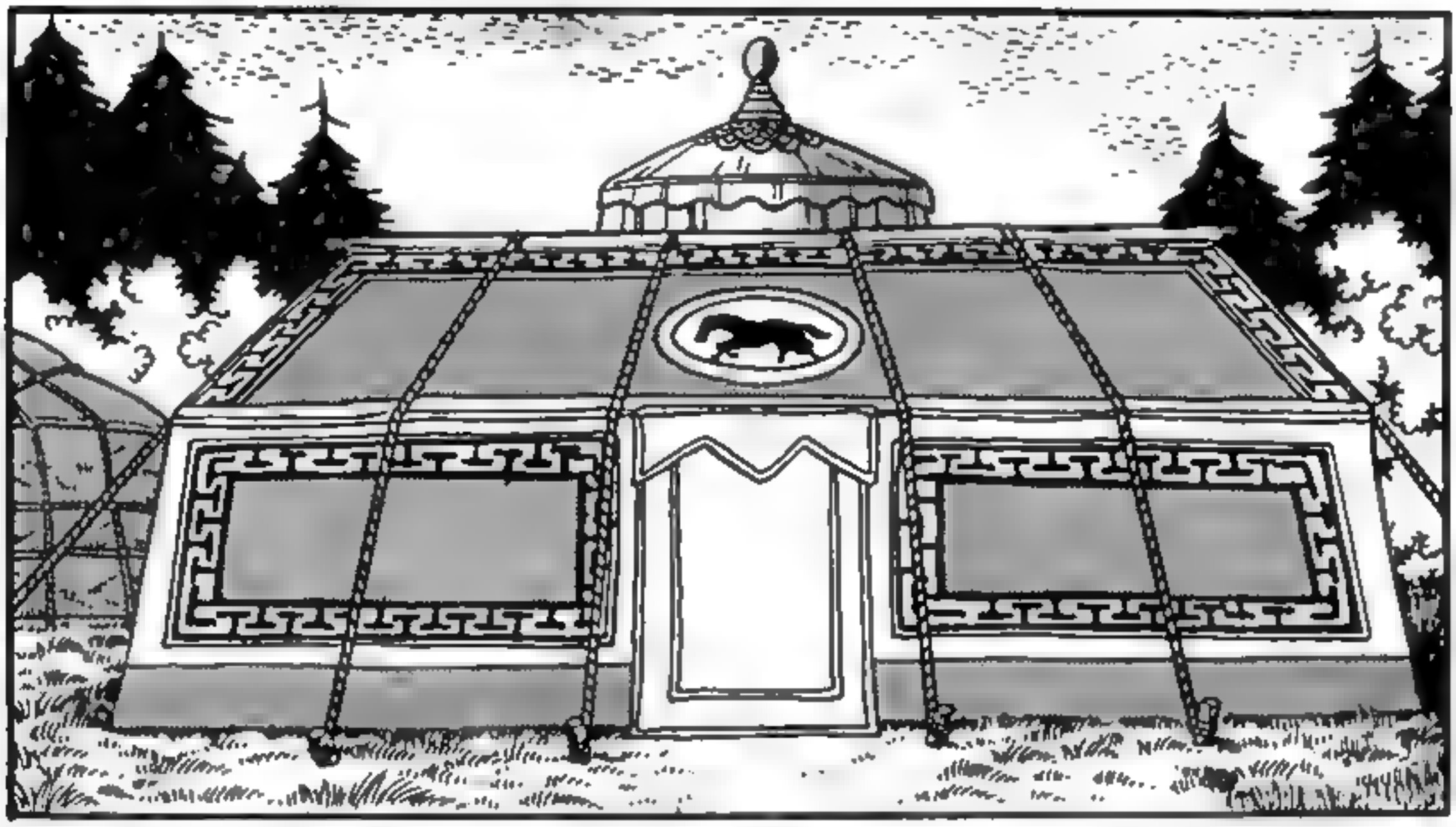
I CAN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF MY MOTHER WEEPING. I WANT TO SAVE HER IF EVEN JUST A DAY SOONER.

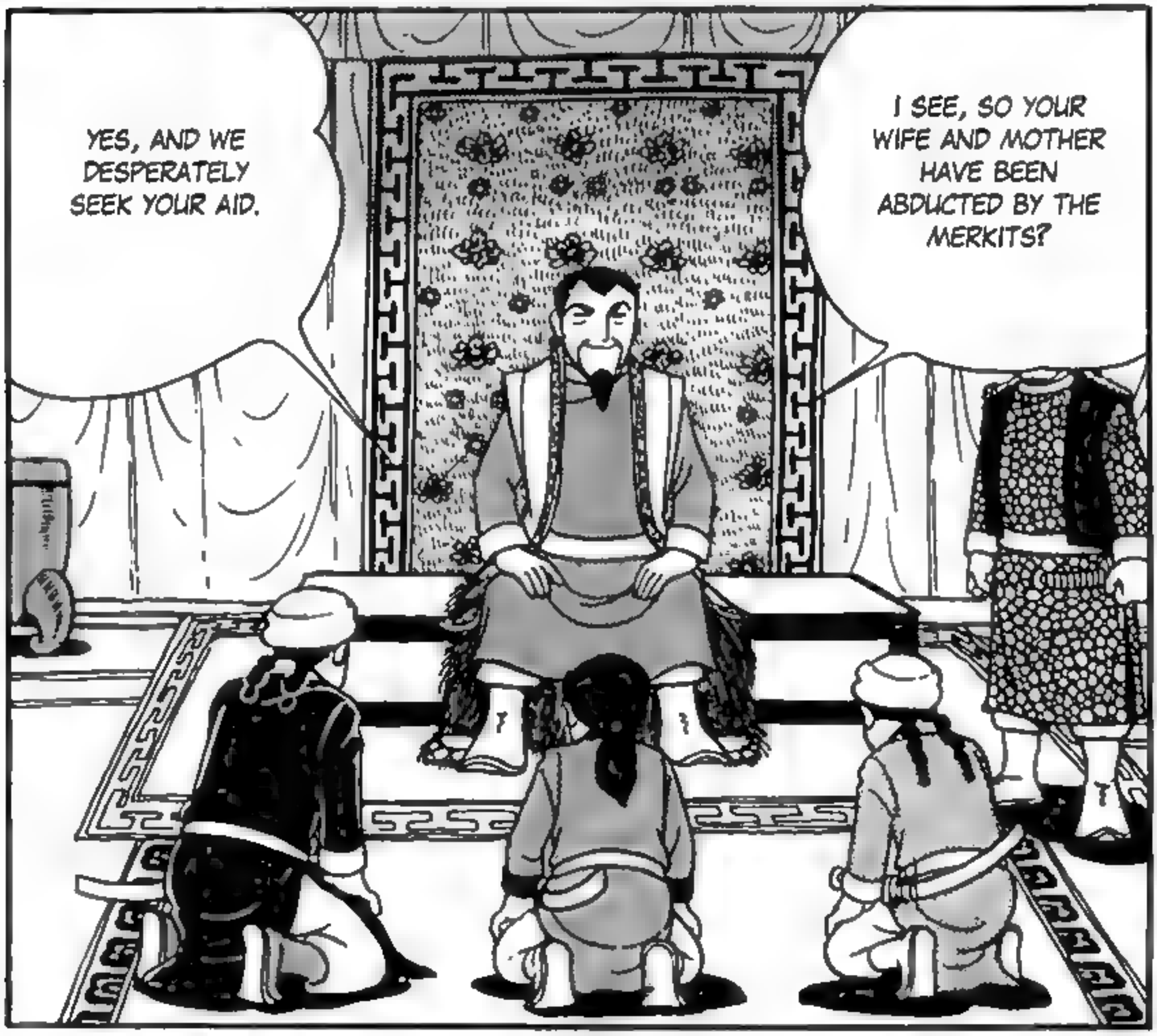
TRUE, HE DID.

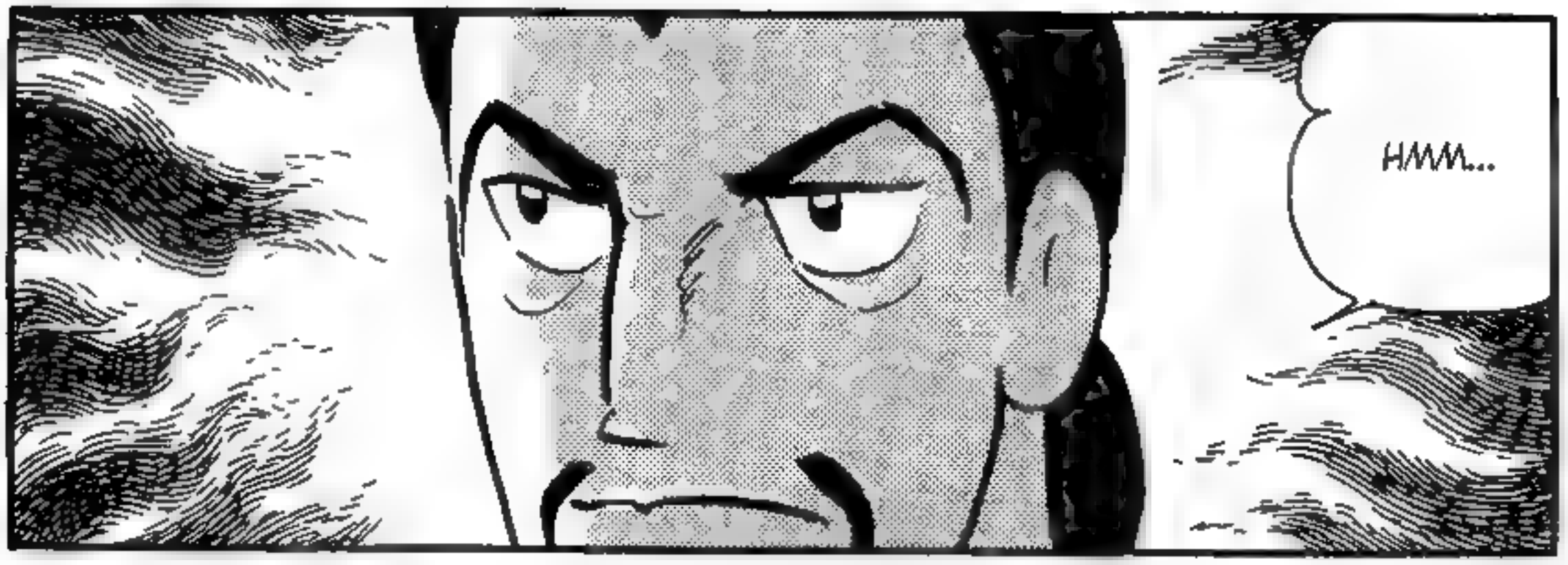
AND SO, TEMUCHIN, BELGUTEI, AND KASAR SET OUT FOR KEREIT LANDS.

AFTER CROSSING THE ORKHON AND TUUL RIVERS,


THEY ARRIVED AT THE QARA FOREST, WHERE THE KEREIT WERE ENCAMPED.




YES, AND WE DESPERATELY SEEK YOUR AID.
I SEE, SO YOUR WIFE AND MOTHER HAVE BEEN ABDUCTED BY THE MERKITS?


HMM...

TEMUCHIN, DO YOU REMEMBER MY PROMISE WHEN YOU BROUGHT ME THAT MAGNIFICENT SABLE COAT?

I PROMISED TO HELP YOU REBUILD YOUR TRIBE, JUST AS YOUR FATHER DID TO ME...

I WILL GLADLY HELP YOU GET BACK NOT ONLY YOUR WOMEN, BUT YOUR STOLEN LIVESTOCK AS WELL.

THEREFORE, I WANT YOU TO GO TO QORQONAQ RIVER AND ASK JAMUKA TO MOBILIZE HIS 20,000 MEN.

HOWEVER, SINCE THE MERKITS NUMBER 10,000, I WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL FORCES TO GUARANTEE A CRUSHING VICTORY.

WITH JAMUKA AND MY ARMIES COMBINED, WE CAN KILL EVERY LAST MERKIT WHO STANDS IN OUR WAY!

YES, THE JADARAT WERE FORMERLY PART OF THE MONGOL CONFEDERATION AND WE WERE FRIENDS IN OUR CHILDHOODS.

ARE YOU ALREADY ACQUAINTED WITH JAMUKA, THE JADARAT TRIBE?

YES, KHAN.

EXCELLENT. PLEASE GO AT ONCE AND ASK FOR JAMUKA'S HELP THEN.

YOUR FATHER AND I WERE SWORN BROTHERS, SO I AM MERELY CARRYING OUT MY JUST DUTIES.

I WILL NEVER FORGET YOUR KINDNESS.

TEMUCHIN AND HIS BROTHERS QUICKLY RODE TOWARDS QORQONAQ FOREST

SENGGUM, YOU SHOULD KNOW WELL THAT THE MERKITS ARE NO FRIENDS OF OURS. IT IS TIME WE CRUSH THEIR POWER FOR GOOD.

FATHER, WHY MUST WE TAKE THE RISK TO HELP A SMALL TRIBE LIKE THEIRS?

YES, BUT WHO WOULD DARE ATTACK US, EXCEPT FOR JAMUKA?

YES, BUT IF WE MOBILIZE OUR ARMY OF 20,000, THEN OUR GERS HERE WILL BE LEFT VULNERABLE FOR AN ENEMY RAID.

JAMUKA MAY ACKNOWLEDGE ME AS HIS OVERLORD BY TREATING ME AS HIS ELDER BROTHER, BUT HE HARBOURS HIGH AMBITIONS. HE WISHES TO REPLACE ME AS THE SUPREME KHAN OF THE STEPPE. THAT IS WHY I HAVE ASKED JAMUKA TO ACCOMPANY ME FOR THIS CAMPAIGN.

FIRST, WE WILL CRUSH THE MERKITS, AND THEN DEAL WITH JAMUKA SO THAT MY PLACE AS THE SUPREME KHAN WILL BE UNCHALLENGED.

Y-YES, FATHER.

IF YOU WISH TO SUCCEED AFTER ME, YOU SHOULD LEARN TO THINK AT LEAST THAT MUCH AHEAD. NOW PREPARE TO SET OUT FOR WAR.

QORQONAQ

AT LEAST 10 YEARS, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY.

TEMUCHIN! HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN?

WELL THEN, WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE TODAY?

HAS IT ALREADY BEEN OVER A DECADE...?

OH, IS THAT SO?

MY TRIBE WAS RECENTLY ATTACKED BY THE MERKITS, WHO RAN OFF WITH OUR WOMEN AND LIVESTOCK. I THUS ASKED FOR TOGHRUL KHAN'S HELP, AND HE AGREED TO MOBILIZE HIS ARMY OF 20,000 TO DEFEAT THE MERKITS AND RETRIEVE MY POSSESSIONS.

HOWEVER, TOGHRUL WISHES YOU TO ALSO MOBILIZE 20,000 MEN SO AS TO GUARANTEE A TOTAL, CRUSHING VICTORY OVER THE MERKITS.

I SEE... TOGHRUL IS WARY OF WHAT I MIGHT DO IF HE WERE TO GO OFF CAM-PAIGNING...

20,000? THAT'D BE MY ENTIRE FORCES.

I'M NOT YET STRONG ENOUGH TO FACE OFF AGAINST TOGHRUL AND WIN. I BETTER HUMBLY FOLLOW HIS ORDERS FOR NOW...

EXCELLENT. WHAT SHALL I TELL TOGHRUL THEN?

TEMUCHIN, ARE WE NOT FELLOW MONGOLS? HOW COULD I EVER REFUSE? I WILL GLADLY HELP YOU WITH MY ARMY.

UNDERSTOOD.

TELL HIM TO HAVE HIS ARMY JOIN UP WITH MINE IN 10 DAYS' TIME AT BOTOQAN-BO'ORJI.

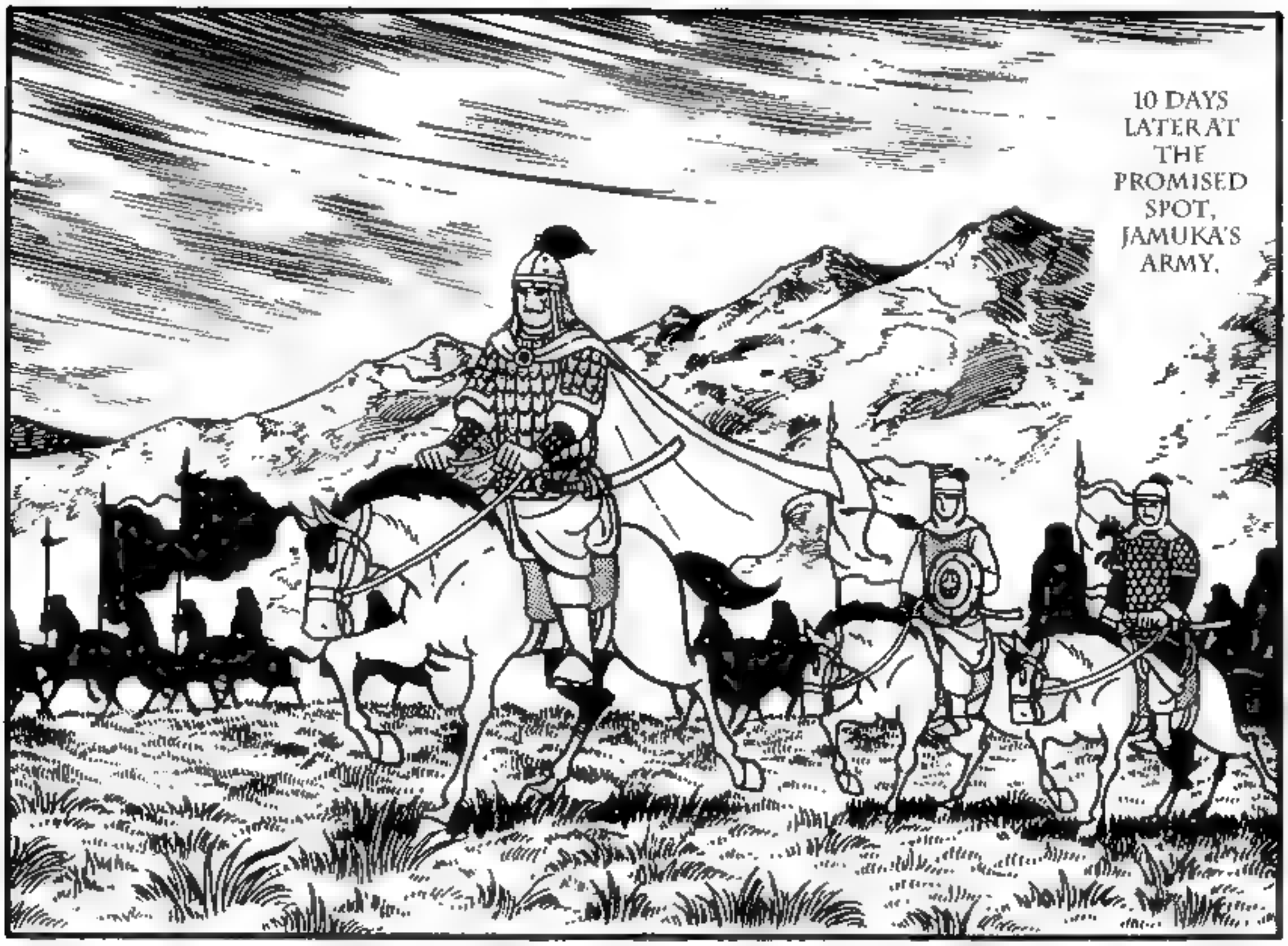
RIGHT.

KASAR. YOU GO AND DELIVER JAMUKA'S MESSAGE TO TOGHRUL. IN THE MEANTIME, BELGUTEI AND I WILL GO AND ROUND UP ALL OUR TRIBESMEN AND HEAD TO THE MEETING POINT.

KASAR TURNED HIS HORSE BACK TO TOGHRUL'S CAMP.

WHILE HIS TWO BROTHERS HEADED BACK HOME

Defeat of the Merkits


10 DAYS LATER AT THE PROMISED SPOT, JAMUKA'S ARMY,

AND TOGHRUL'S ARMY, EACH NUMBERING 20,000, JOINED UP WITH EACH OTHER.

ASIDE FROM THESE TWO ARMIES, THERE WERE ALSO TEMUCHIN AND HIS 20 TRIBESMEN.

IT IS THE DUTY OF THE YOUNGER BROTHER TO FOLLOW THE ELDER BROTHER'S WILL.

THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING TO MY CALL, JAMUKA.

UNDER-STOOD.

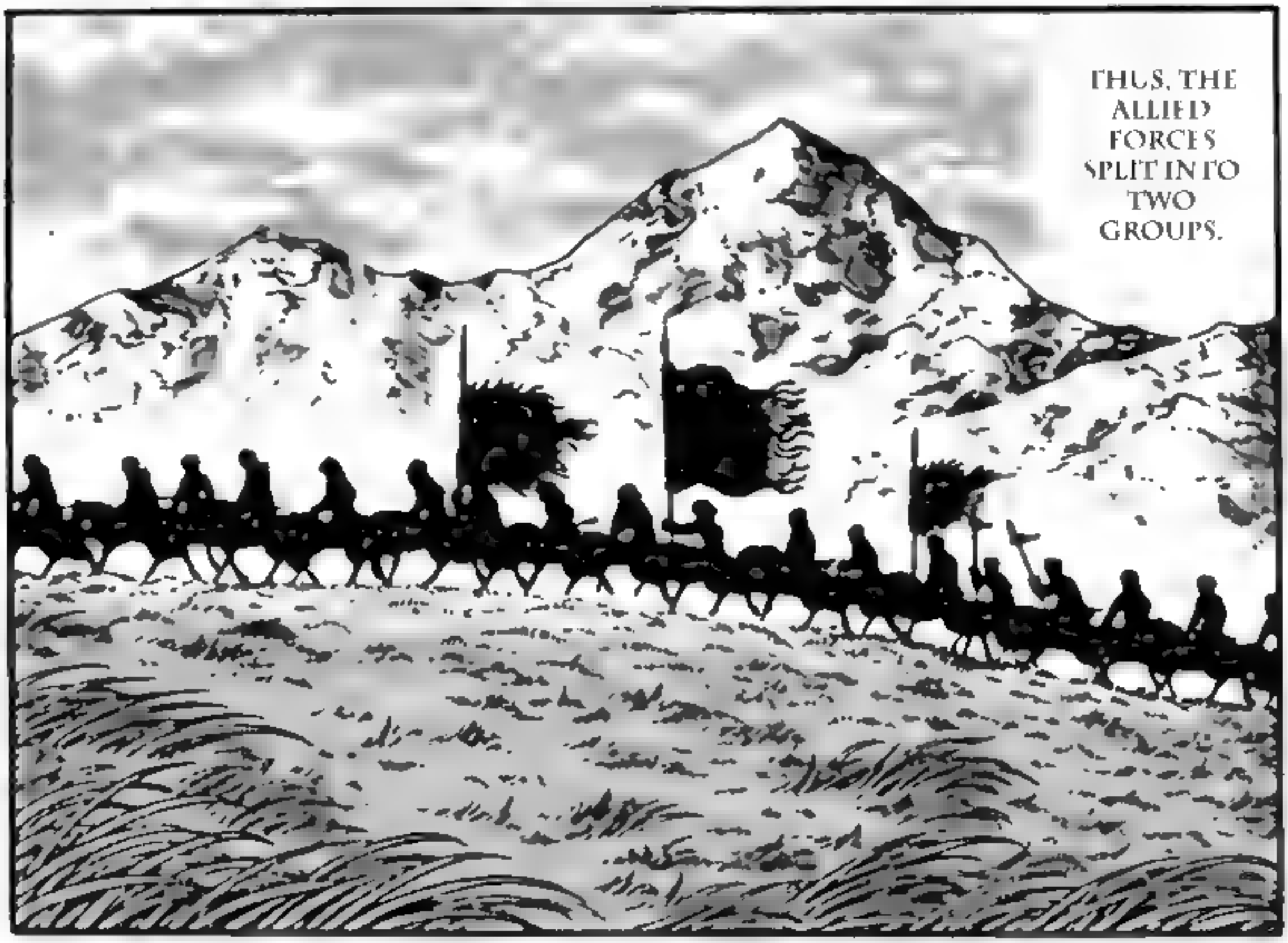
I WILL ENGAGE THE MERKITS FROM THE FRONT SO I WANT YOU TO CIRCLE AROUND THEM AND HIT THEIR REAR.

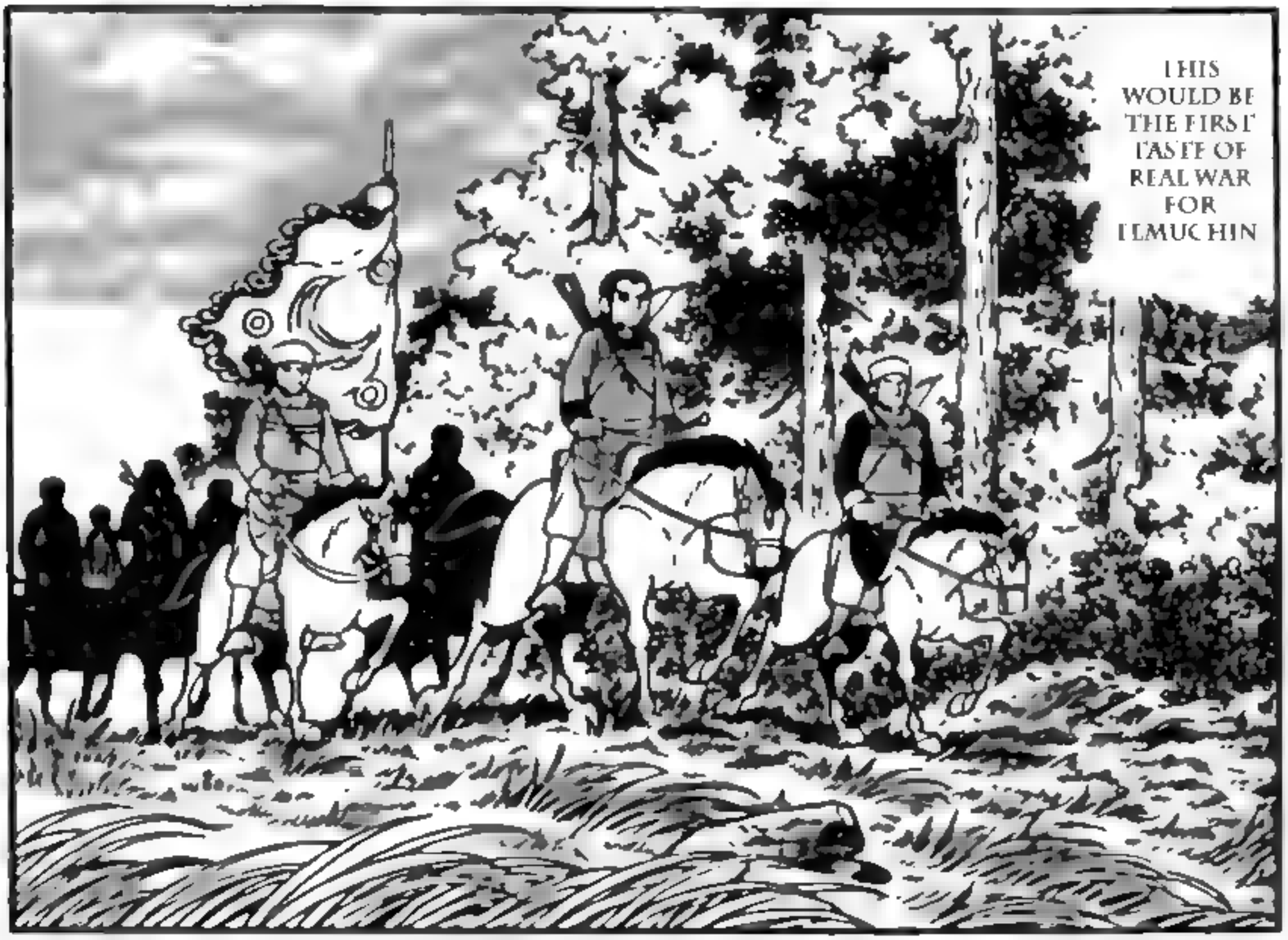
YES?

BY THE WAY, TEMUCHIN...

YES, TOGHRUL KHAN.

I HARDLY THINK A BAND OF 20 WARRIORS IS SUITED FOR BATTLE. I WILL LEND YOU 500 MEN. SINCE THIS IS BATTLE IS FOR YOUR SAKE, LEAD THEM AS MY VANGUARD.


THUS, THE ALLIED FORCES SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS.


THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST TASTE OF REAL WAR FOR TEMUCHIN

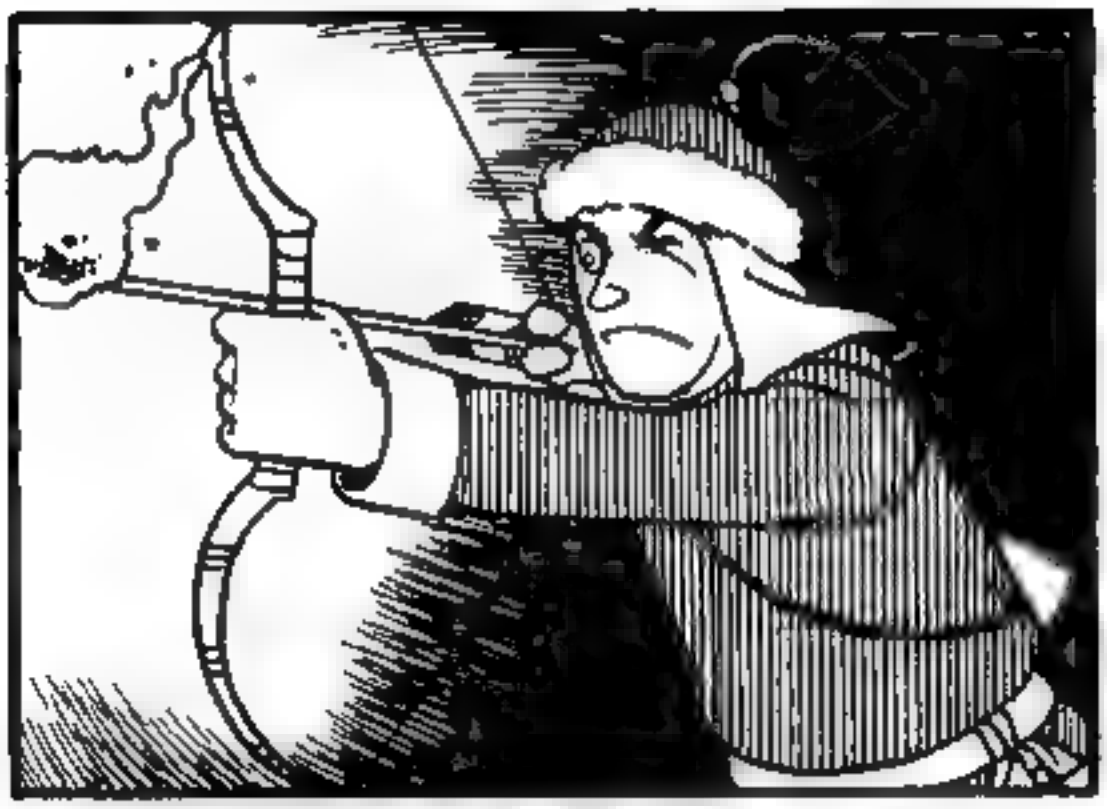
UNDER-STOOD.

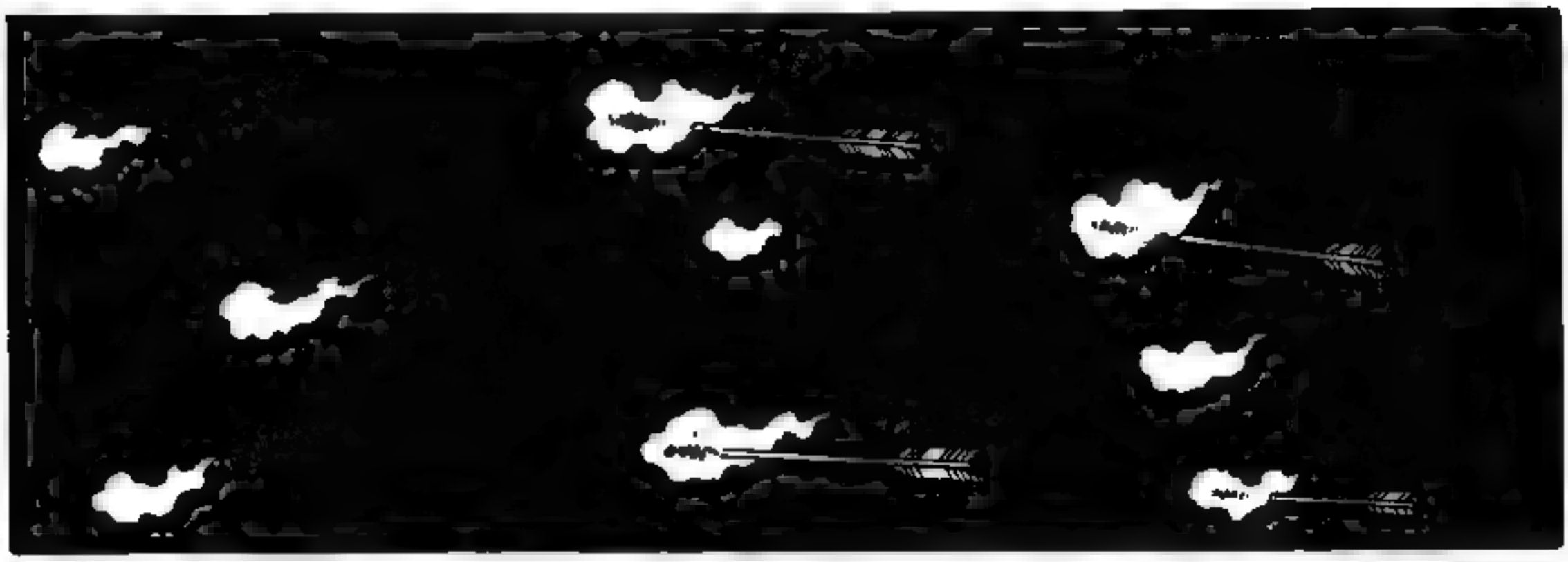
CHARGE AT FULL SPEED AND DON'T LET UP ON THEM, TEMUCHIN. WHEN YOU STRIKE YOUR FOES, YOU MUST STRIKE THEM SO THOROUGHLY THAT THEY WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO RETALIATE.

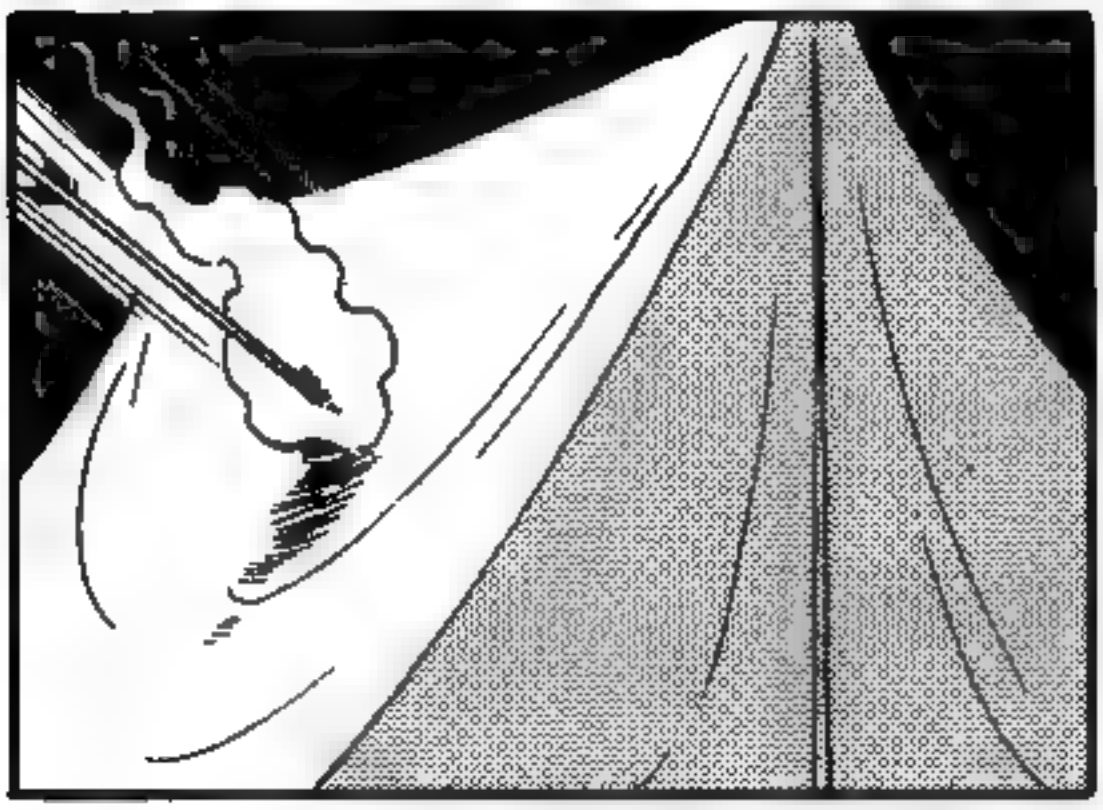
YES, KHAN!

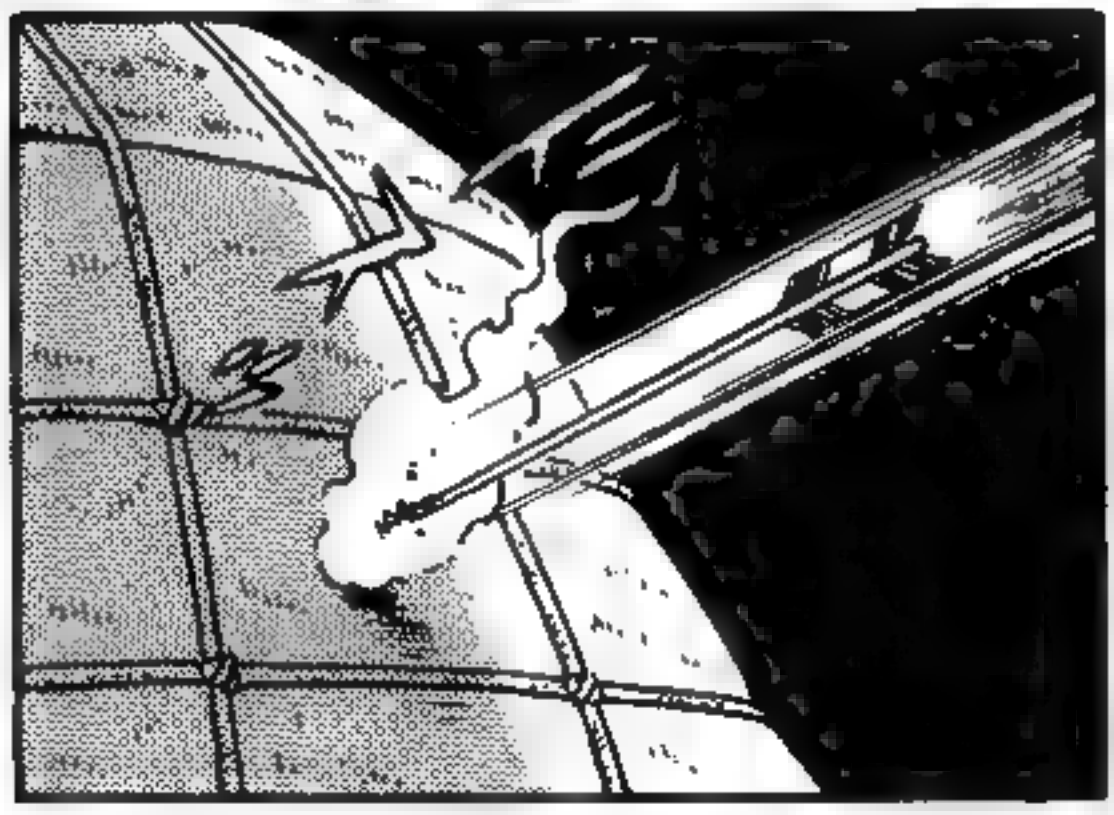
GIVE THE SIGNAL FOR BATTLE!

CHARGE!

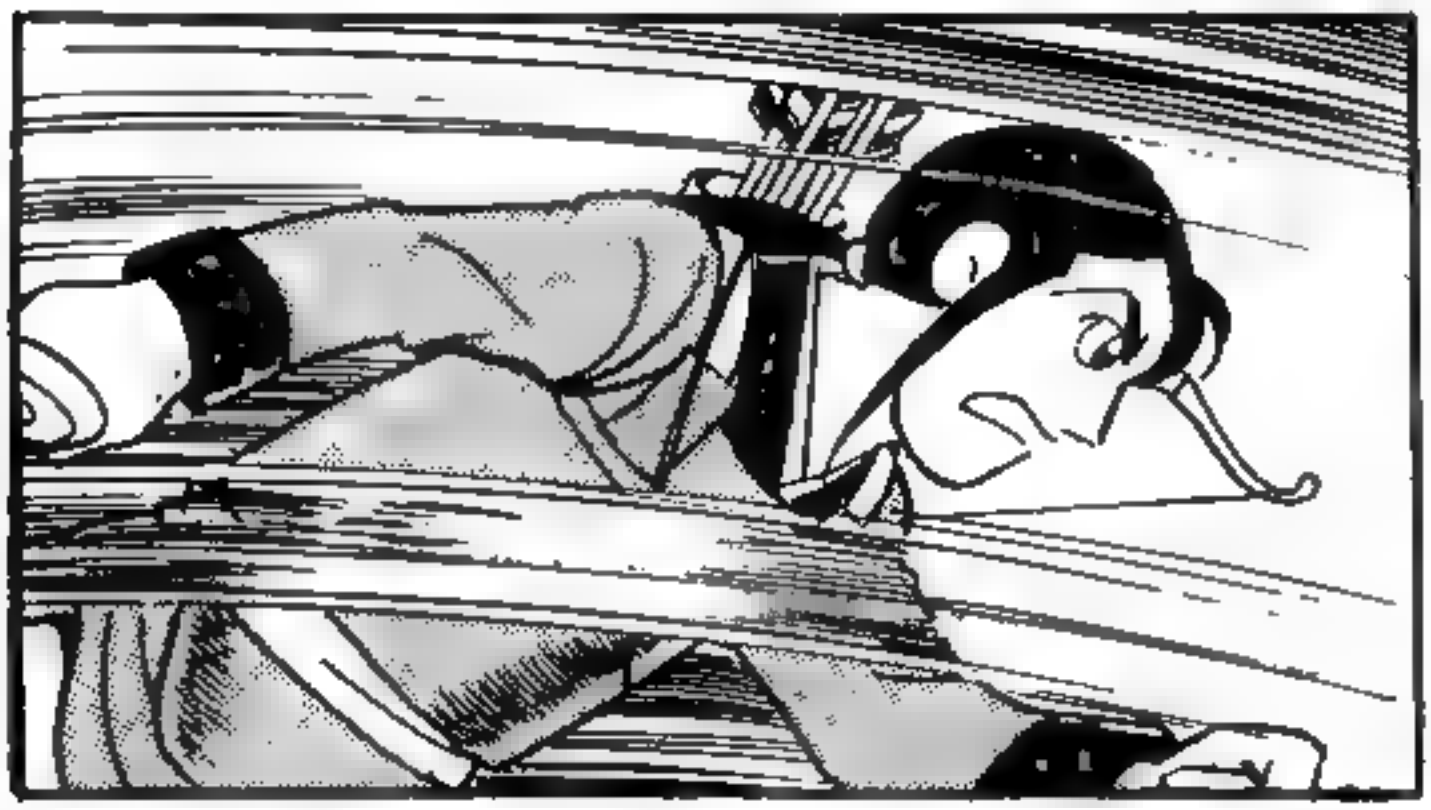


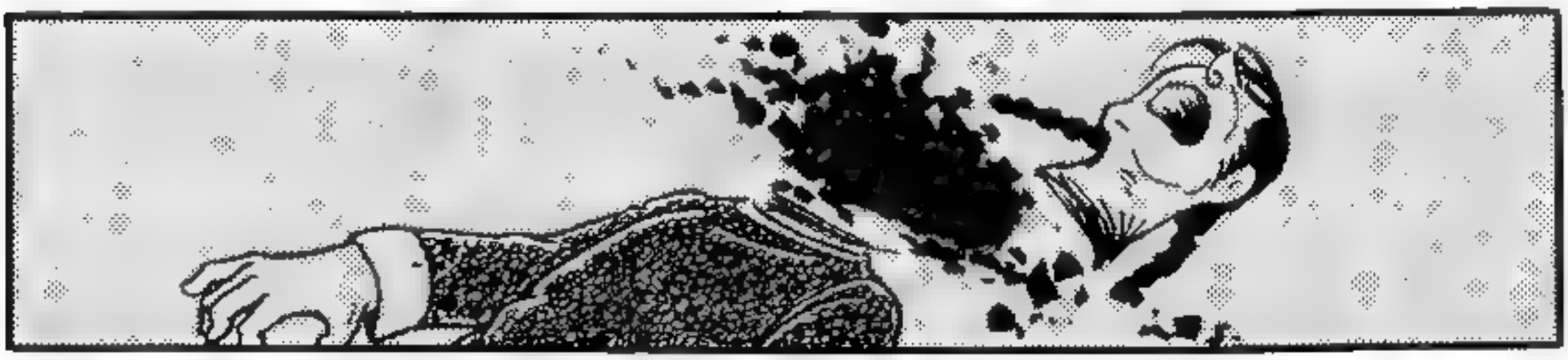


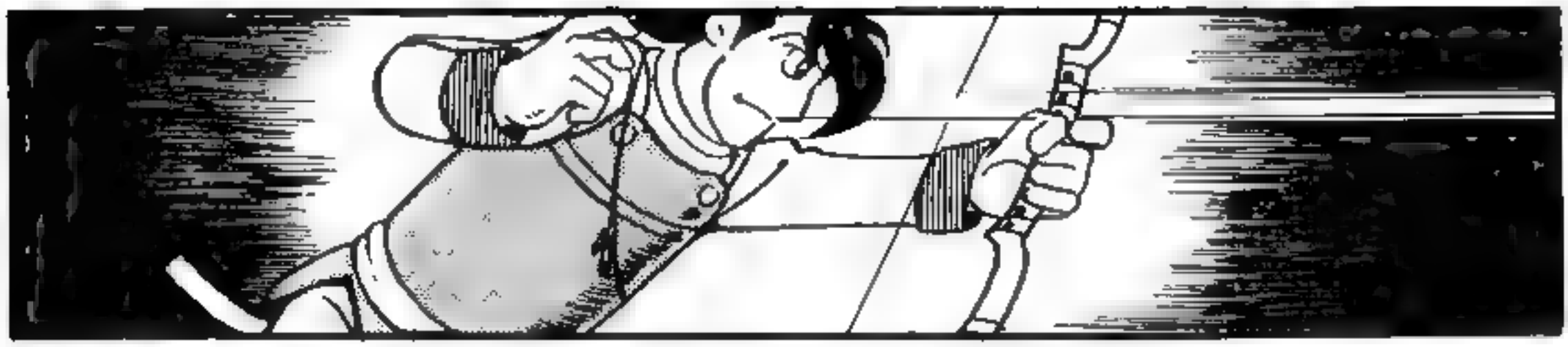


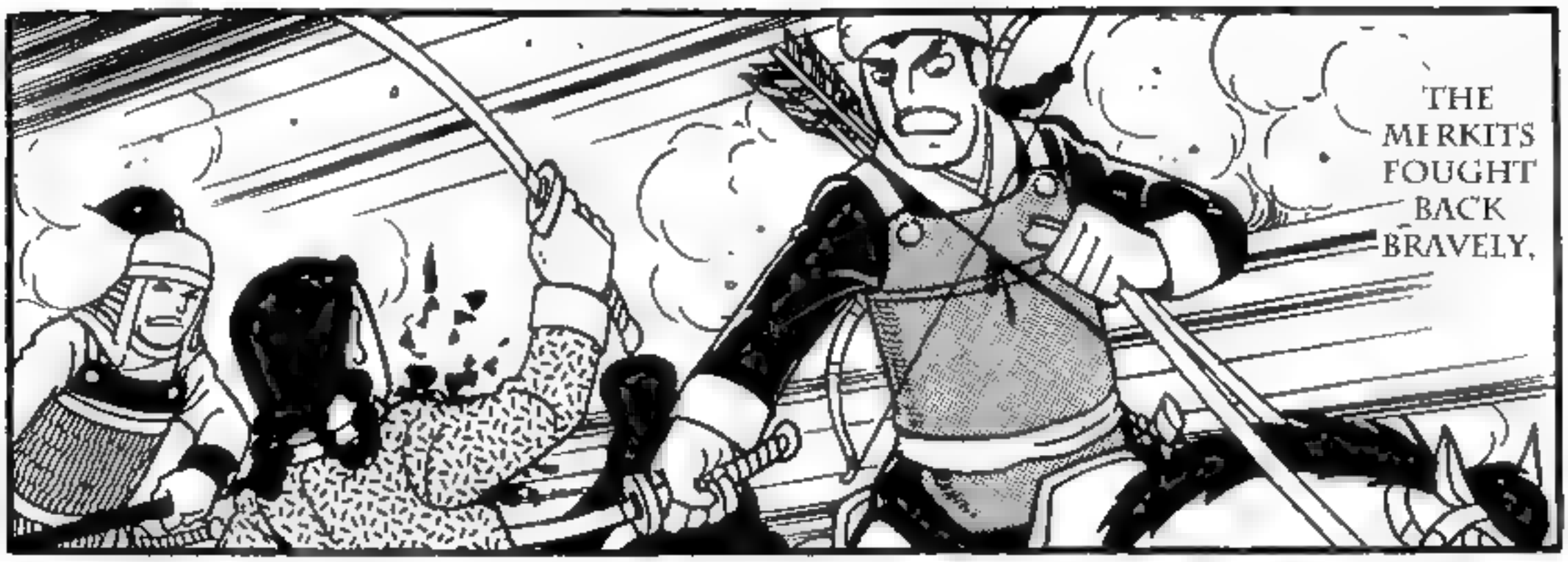


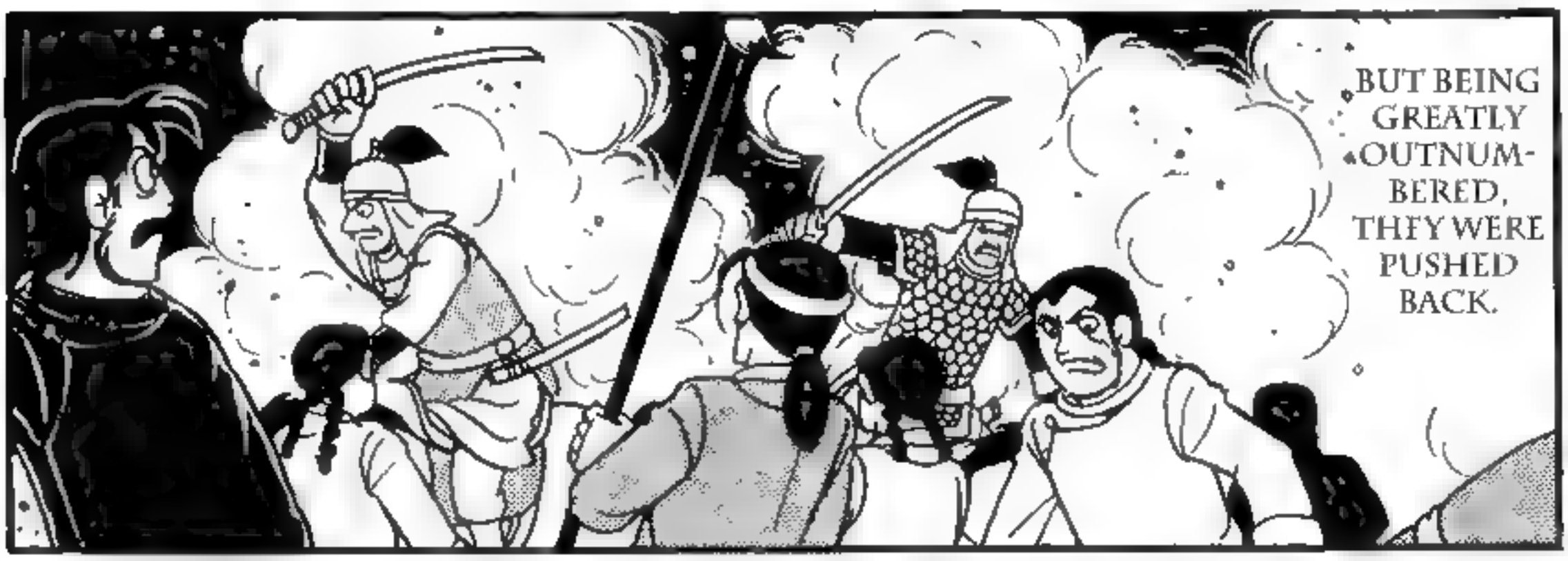
AGHH! IT'S AN ENEMY RAID!








THE MERKITS FOUGHT BACK BRAVELY.


BUT BEING GREATLY OUTNUM-BERED, THEY WERE PUSHED BACK.

AND IT WAS AT THIS TIME. JAMUKA'S FORCES CHARGED THEIR REAR.

THE MERKITS WERE INSTANTLY ROUTED BY THIS ATTACK.

THIS WAY!

CHILA'UN, WHICH GER IS THE ONE BÖRTE IS IN!?

THE ONE OVER THERE!

BÖRTE!

BÖRTE!

TEMUCHIN!

TEMUCHIN...

FORGIVE ME FOR MAKING YOU WAIT SO LONG.

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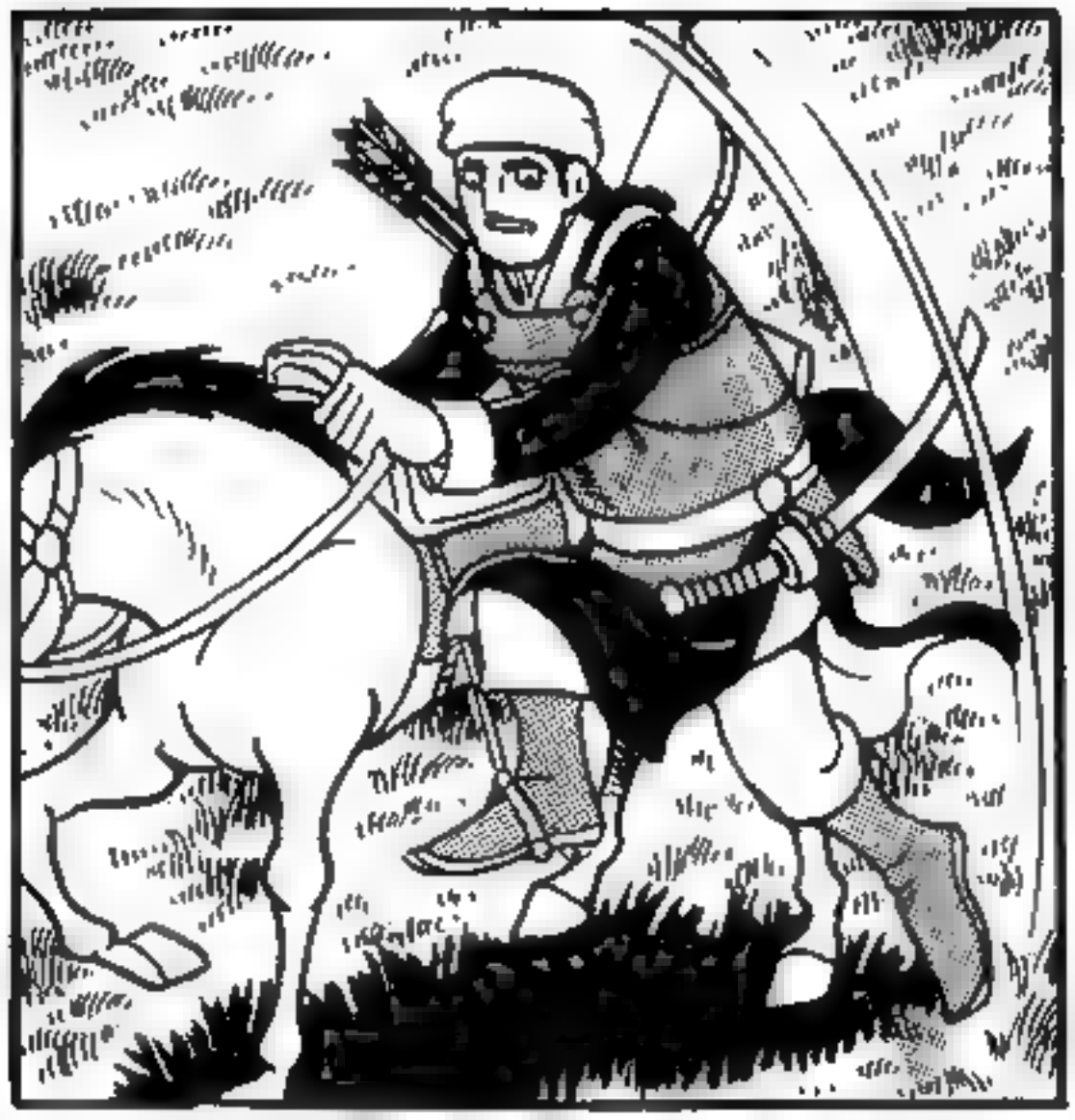
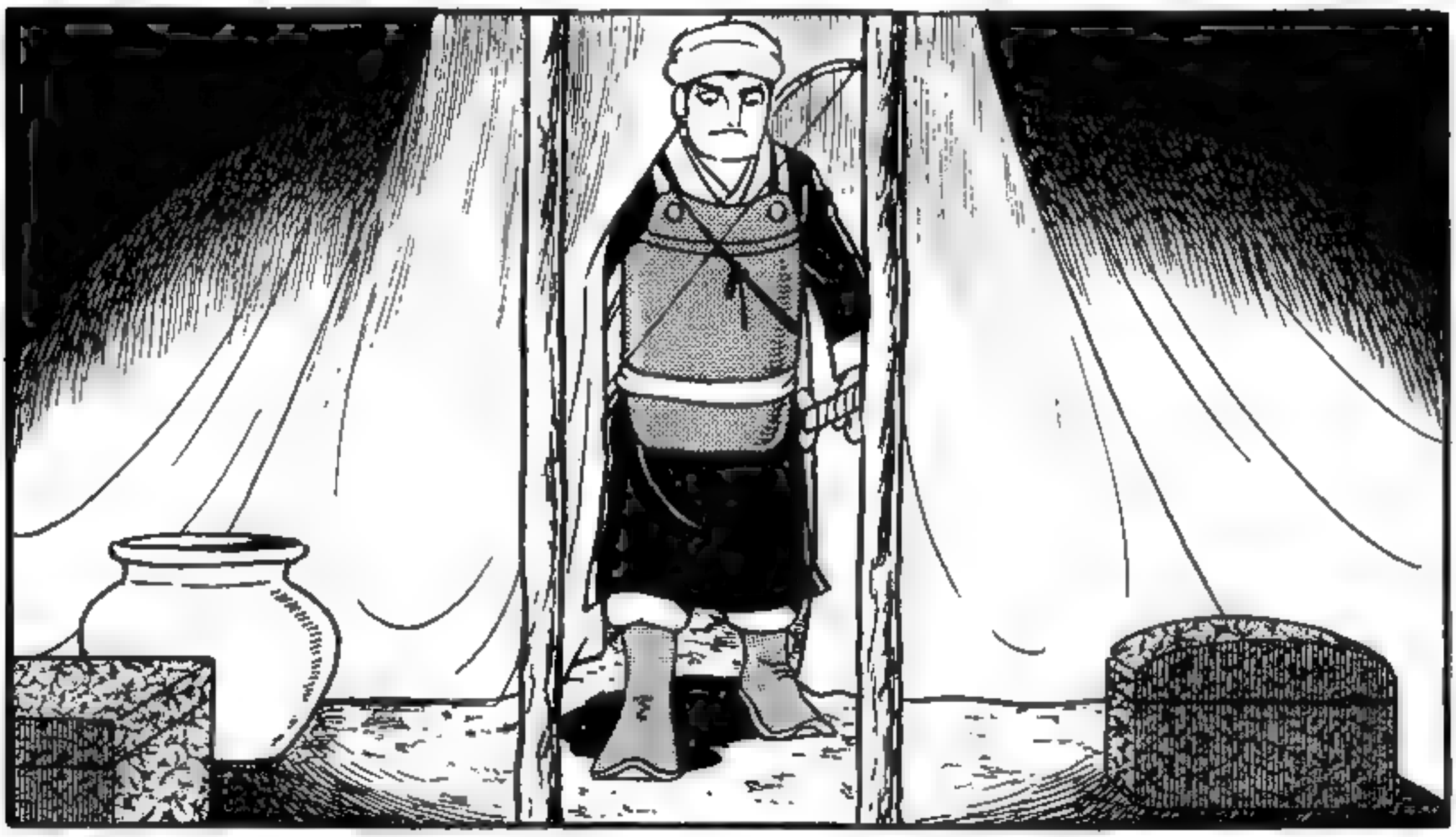
THIS WAY!

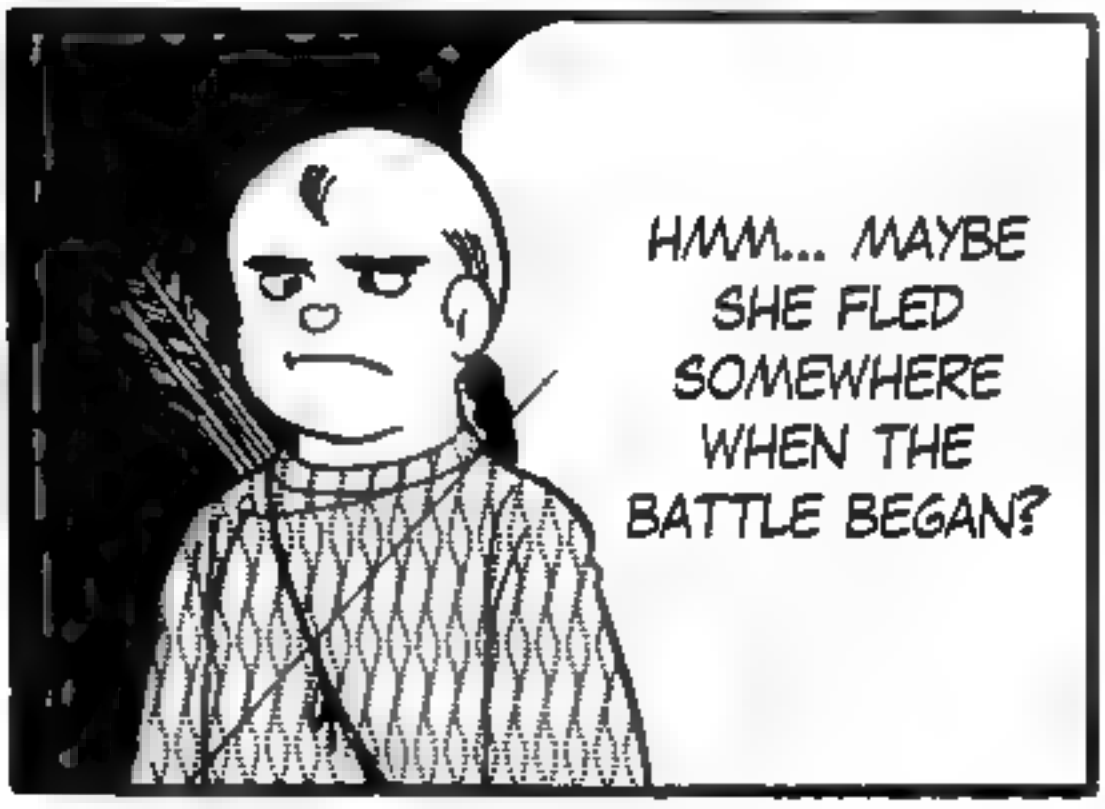
CHILA'UN, WHERE'S MY MOTHER!?

IT'S THE GER OVER THERE!

MOTHER!






HMM... MAYBE SHE FLED SOMEWHERE WHEN THE BATTLE BEGAN?

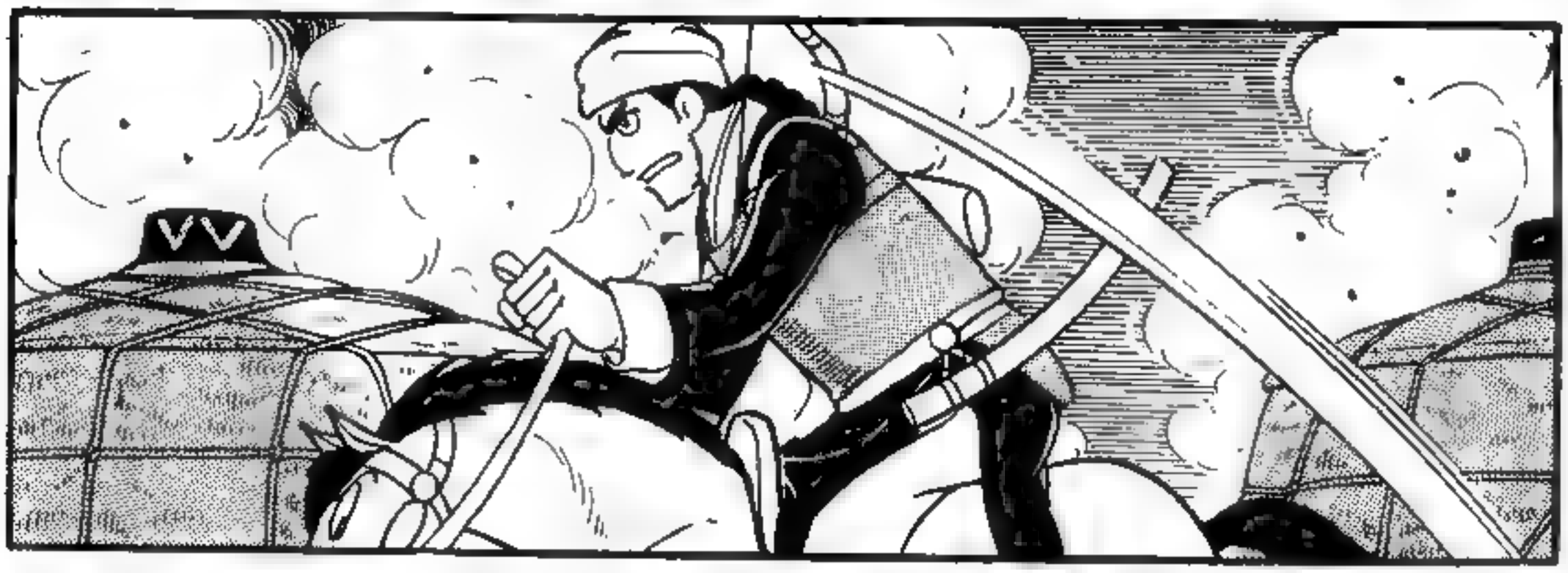
WHAT!? SHE'S NOT HERE!

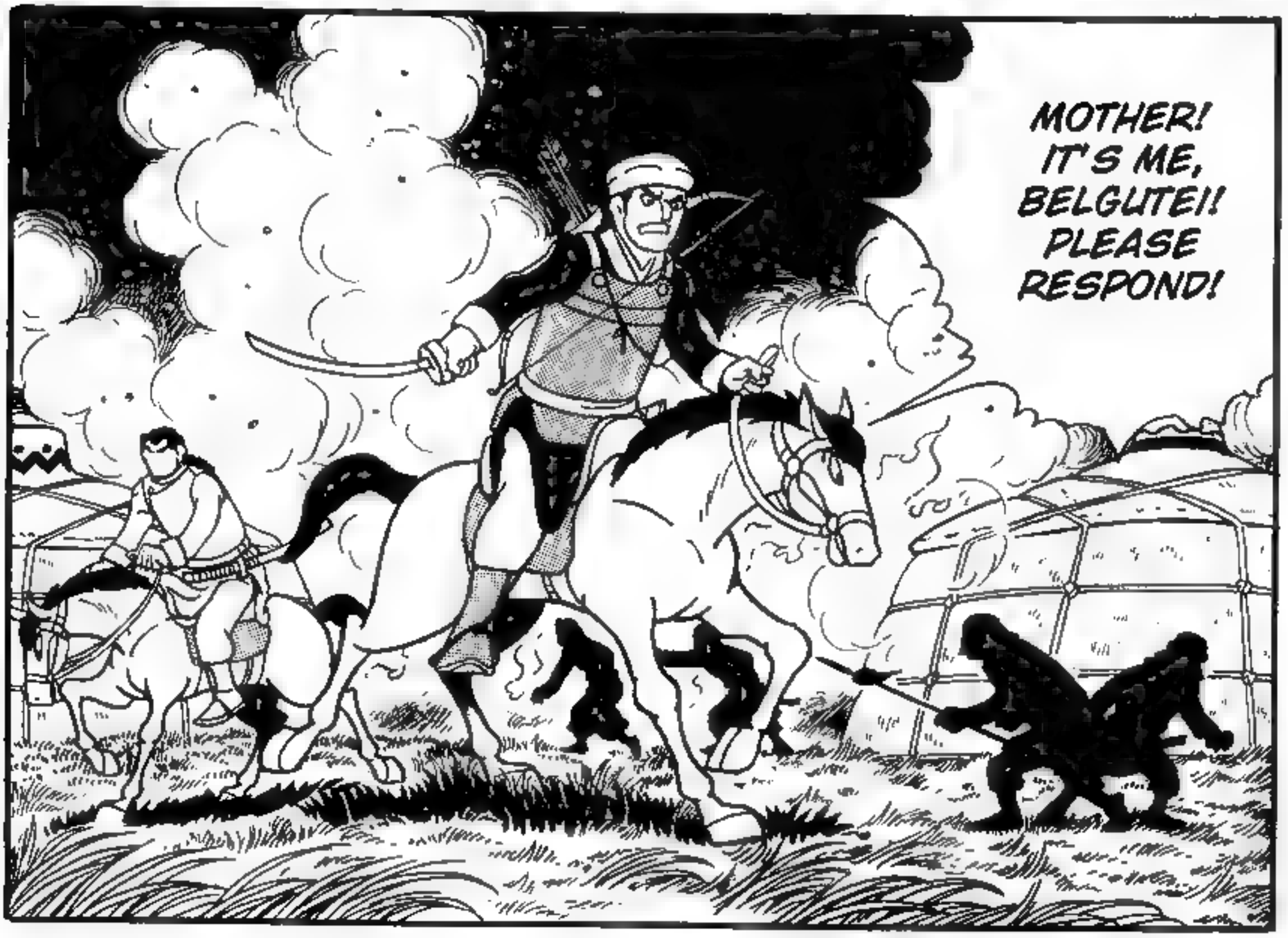
MOTHER, WHERE ARE YOU!? IT'S YOUR SON, BELGUTEI!

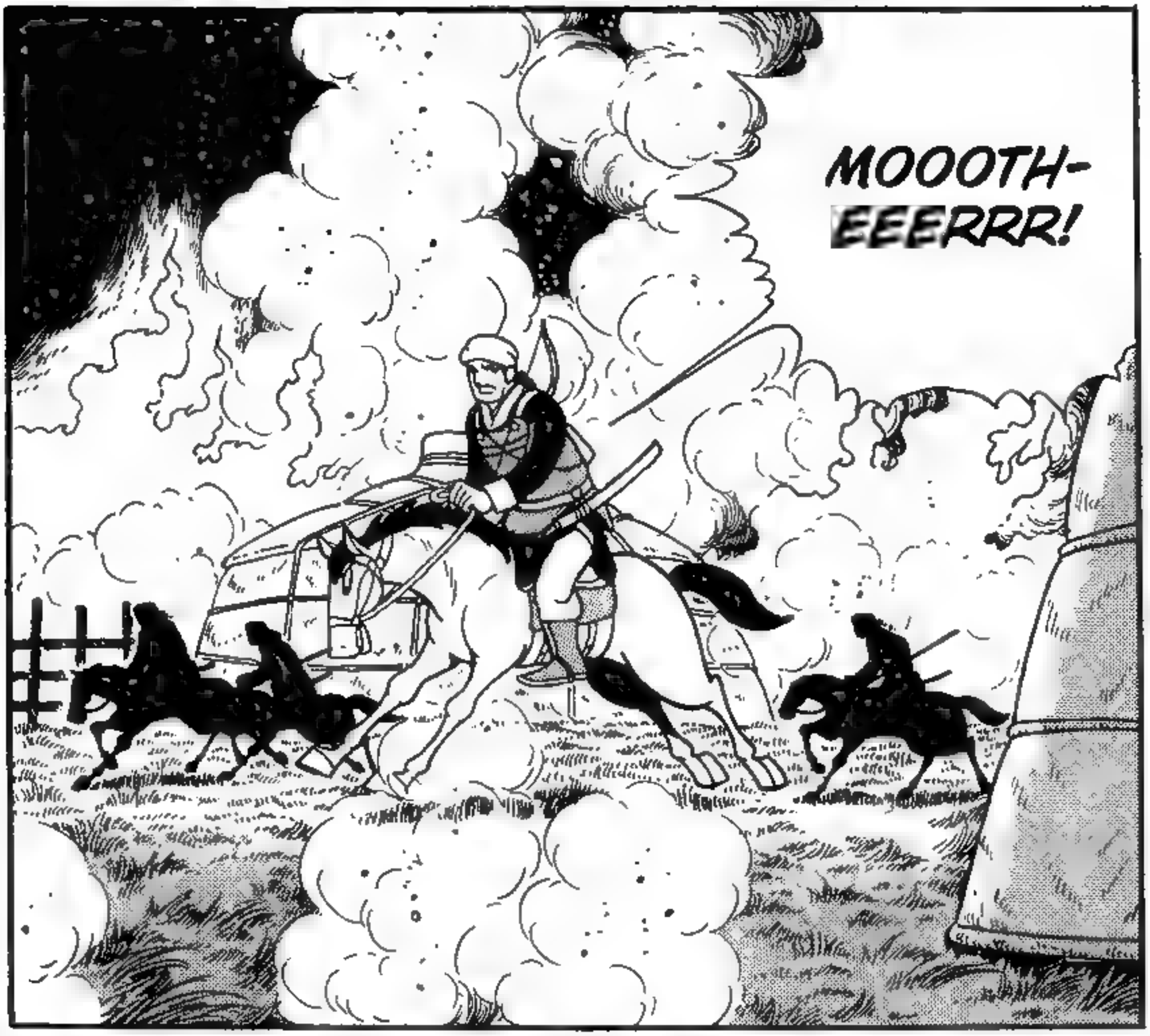
HOW THE HELL SHOULD WE KNOW!?

YOU TWO! WHERE'D YOU HIDE THE WOMAN IN THIS GER!?

DAMN IT!




MOTHER! IT'S ME, BELGUTE!! PLEASE RESPOND!


MOOOTH-
EEERRR!

BELGUTEI'S MOTHER LISTENED TO HER SON'S CRIES FROM THE FOREST.

FORGIVE ME, MY SON. I AM NOW THE WIFE OF A MERE SLAVE. TO RETURN IS TO BRING ONLY SHAME AND HUMILIATION TO YOU AND OUR FAMILY.

JUST LEAVE YOUR MOTHER TO LIVE OUT HER DAYS ALONE IN THIS FOREST...

I HAVE SUCCESS-FULLY RETRIEVED MY WIFE THANKS TO YOU, TOGHRUL KHAN.

WELL DONE, TEMUCHIN. WE MANAGED TO TAKE MANY MERKITS AS PRISONERS.

WE'RE KILLING THEM ALL...?

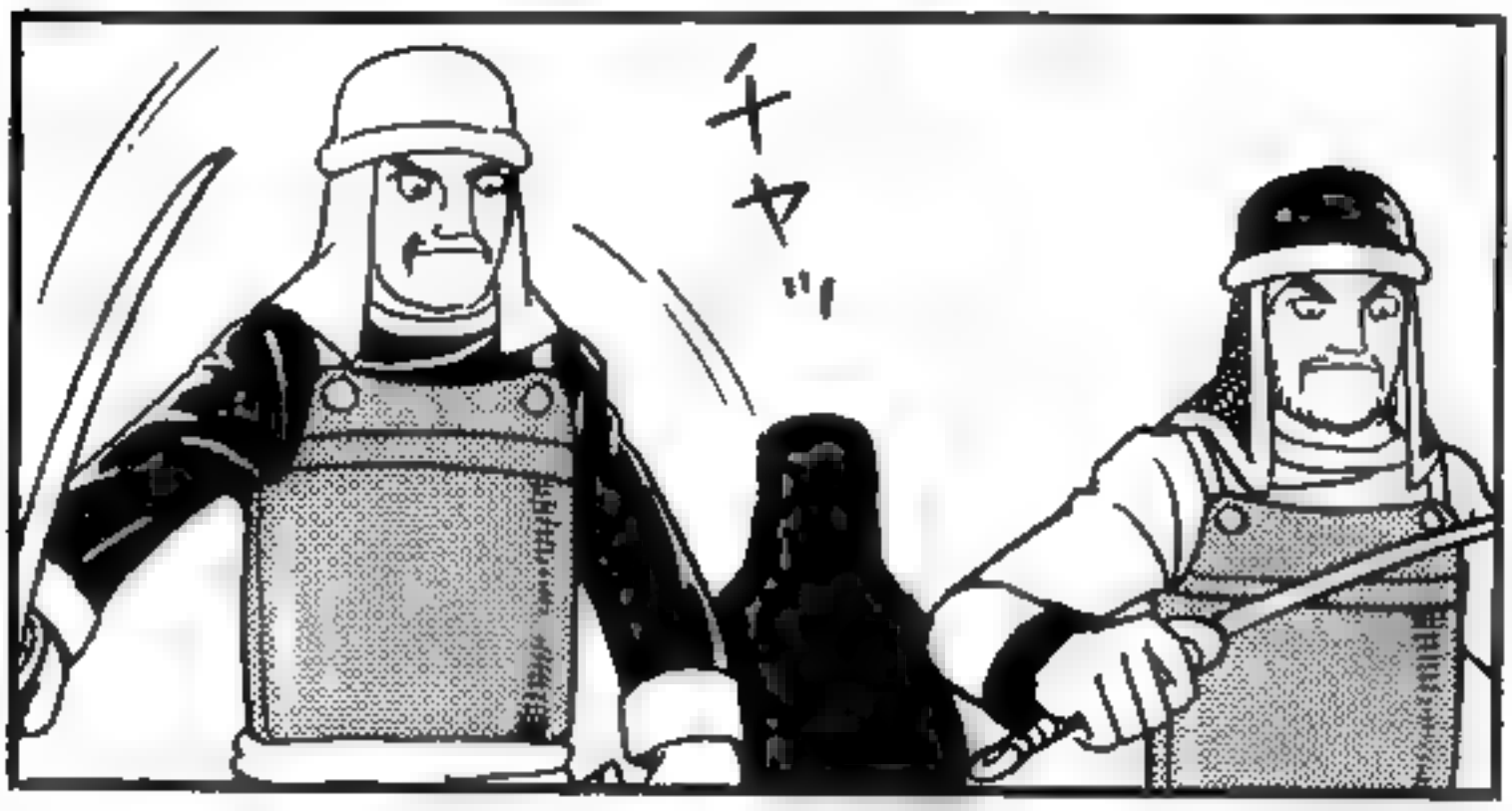
WE CAN DIVIDE THE SPOILS OF WAR LATER. FIRST, WE MUST SEE TO THE EXECUTION OF ALL MERKIT MALES.

.....
OF COURSE. THEY'D ONLY PLOT THEIR REVENGE WHETHER OR NOT WE LET THEM LIVE AS PRISONERS OR OUR SUBORDINATES.
YES, KHAN.
CUT OFF THE HEADS OF ALL MERKIT MALES.

LINE UP!

SIT DOWN!

OFF WITH ALL THEIR HEADS!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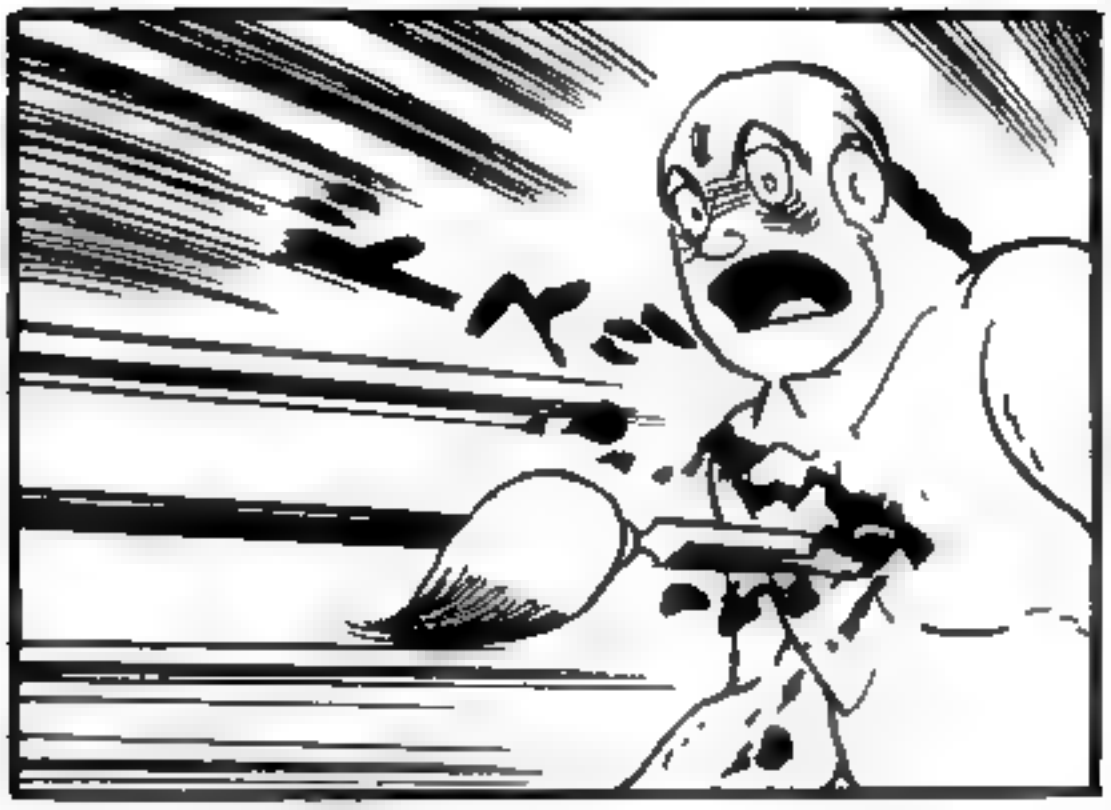
NOW!

AGHH!

DON'T EVEN THINK OF RUNNING AWAY! IF YOU CALL YOURSELVES MEN OF THE STEPPE, THEN DIE WITH PRIDE!



EVERY MERKIT
MALE WAS
BRUTALLY
SLAUGHTERED.

AFTERWARDS, THE ARMIES OF TOGHRUL AND JAMUKA SET UP CAMP AROUND 4KM APART FROM EACH OTHER.

WELL, WE CAN'T BE THE FIRST TO WITHDRAW SINCE WE'RE THE WHOLE REASON THE TWO ARMIES WERE MUSTERED IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, BROTHER?

ALRIGHT.

WE SHOULD STAY HERE IN THE MERKITS' GERS UNTIL BOTH ARMIES WITHDRAW.

I'LL GO TRY TO CHEER HIM UP THEN.

IS HE?

BY THE WAY, BELGUTEI'S QUITE DEPRESSED THESE DAYS.

I'M SORRY THAT WE COULDN'T FIND YOUR MOTHER.

BELGUTEI.

UH HUH...

BUT SHE WAS NOT AMONG THE CAPTURED WOMEN NOR THE CORPSES. I'M SURE SHE MUST HAVE FLED IN PANIC DURING THE CHAOS OF BATTLE.

YOU REALLY THINK SO?

SEEING OUR HUGE ARMY, SHE MUST'VE ASSUMED IT WAS SOME OTHER TRIBE RAIDING AND HID HERSELF SOMEWHERE. I'M SURE ONCE SHE'S CALMED DOWN, SHE'LL FIGURE OUT WHAT HAPPENED AND RETURN TO US.

IF ONLY SO...

YES, I'M SURE SHE WILL.

ALRIGHT, I'LL TRY.

SO TRY TO CHEER UP, OKAY?

YES.

HOW'RE YOU FEELING, BÖRTE? HAVE YOU CALMED DOWN?

IT'S FINE, I UNDERSTAND.

I COULD NOT COME TO YOUR RESCUE IMMEDIATELY SINCE I STILL LACK THE STRENGTH TO ACT ALONE. FORGIVE ME.

YES, DEAR.

BUT I SWEAR TO YOU, I WILL BECOME POWERFUL ENOUGH SO THAT SUCH A TRAGEDY WILL NEVER BEFALL MY FAMILY AGAIN.

URP-

?

WHAT'S WRONG?

AHH!

BUT WITH WHOSE CHILD...!?
MY WIFE IS PREGNANT...
.....
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TEMUCHIN!

I'VE LET A MERKIT MONGREL IMPREGNATE MY WIFE!

CURSE THIS WORLD AND CURSE MY INCOMPETENCE!

Anda

IT'S TIME TO DISCUSS HOW TO SPLIT THE SPOILS OF WAR.

TOGHRUL KHAN, YOUR HELP MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO REUNITE WITH MY WIFE AGAIN. I THUS WILL NOT ASK NOR REQUIRE ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE LIVESTOCK STOLEN FROM ME.

YES, THERE'S NO NEED TO HOLD BACK.

STILL, YOU FOUGHT BRAVELY AND THAT ALONE MERITS AN AWARD.

ARE YOU SURE?

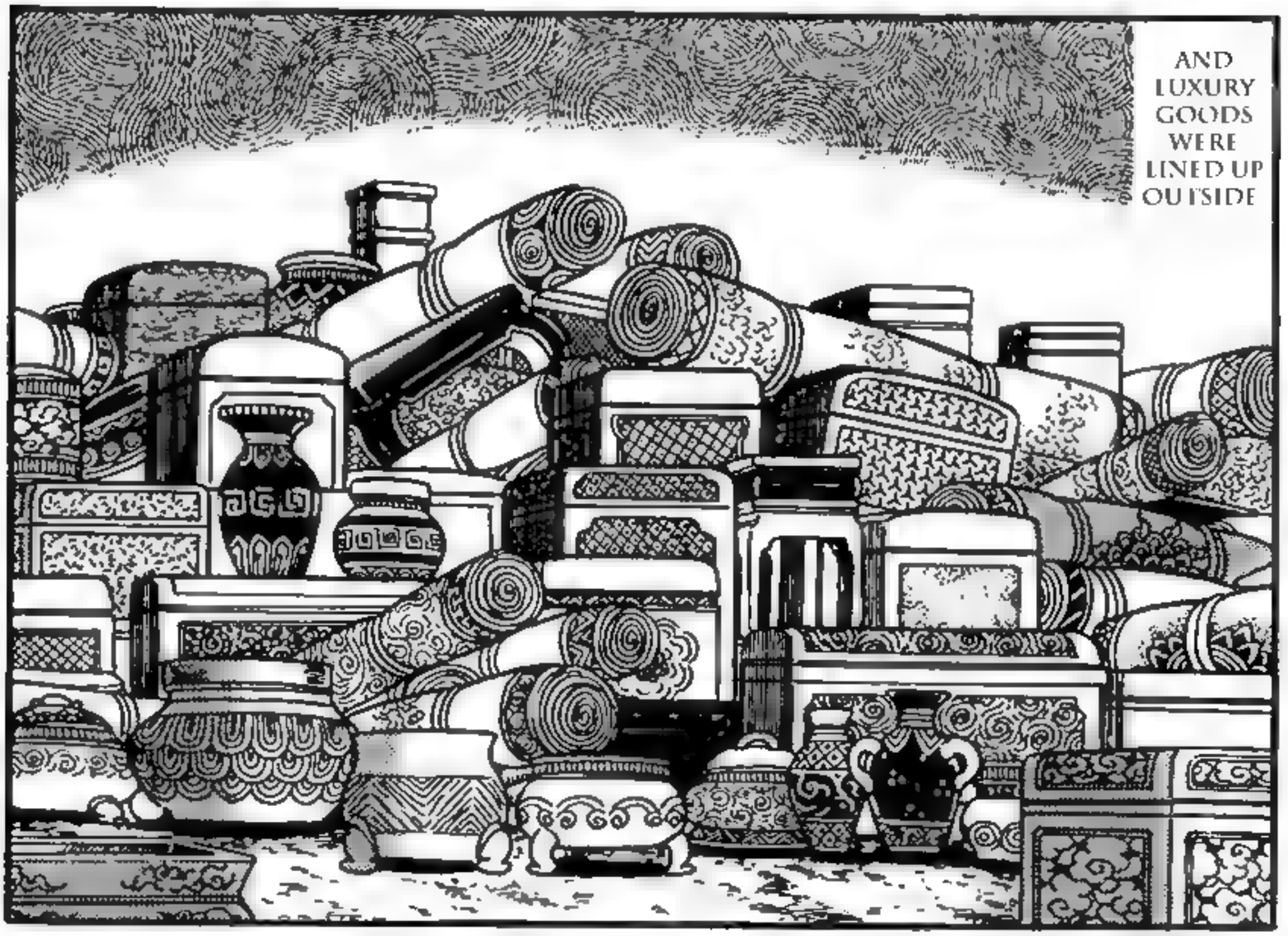
NO, IT'S FINE. PLEASE DIVIDE THE LOOT JUST BETWEEN YOU TWO.

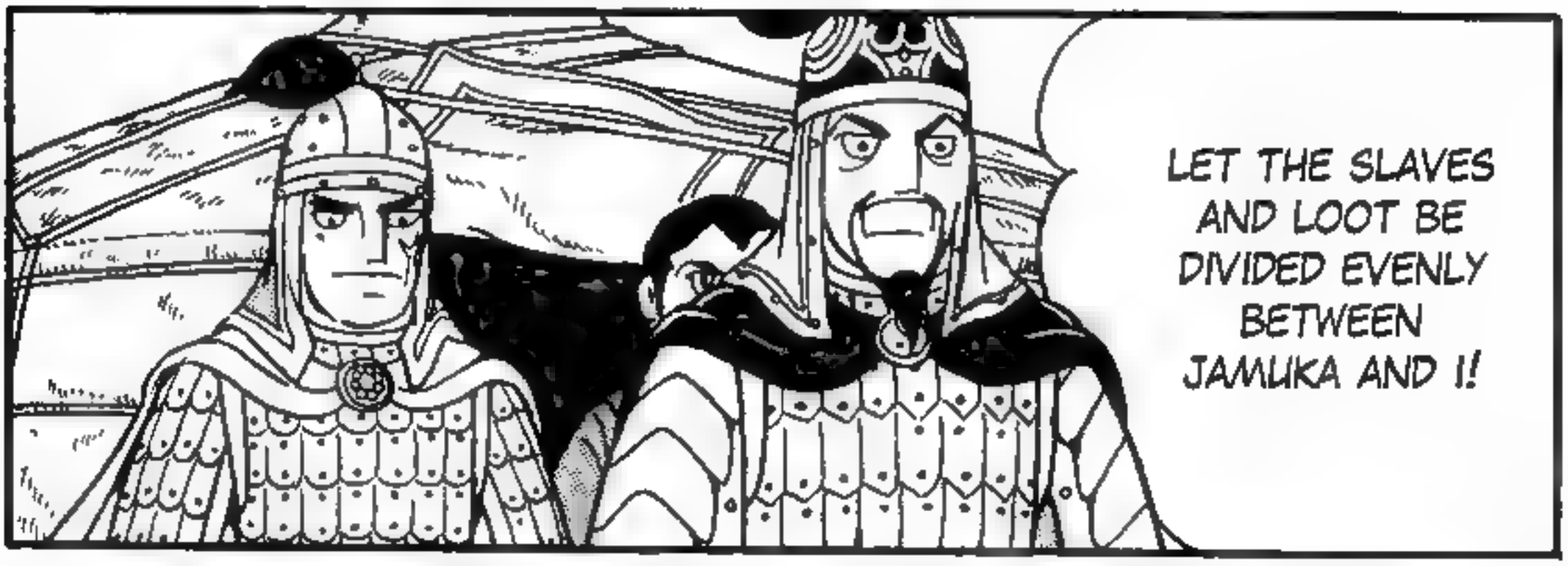
WHAT A MODEST LAD YOU ARE.

YES, I WISH FOR NOTHING MORE.

YES.
VERY WELL, LET US DIVIDE IT BETWEEN YOU AND I.

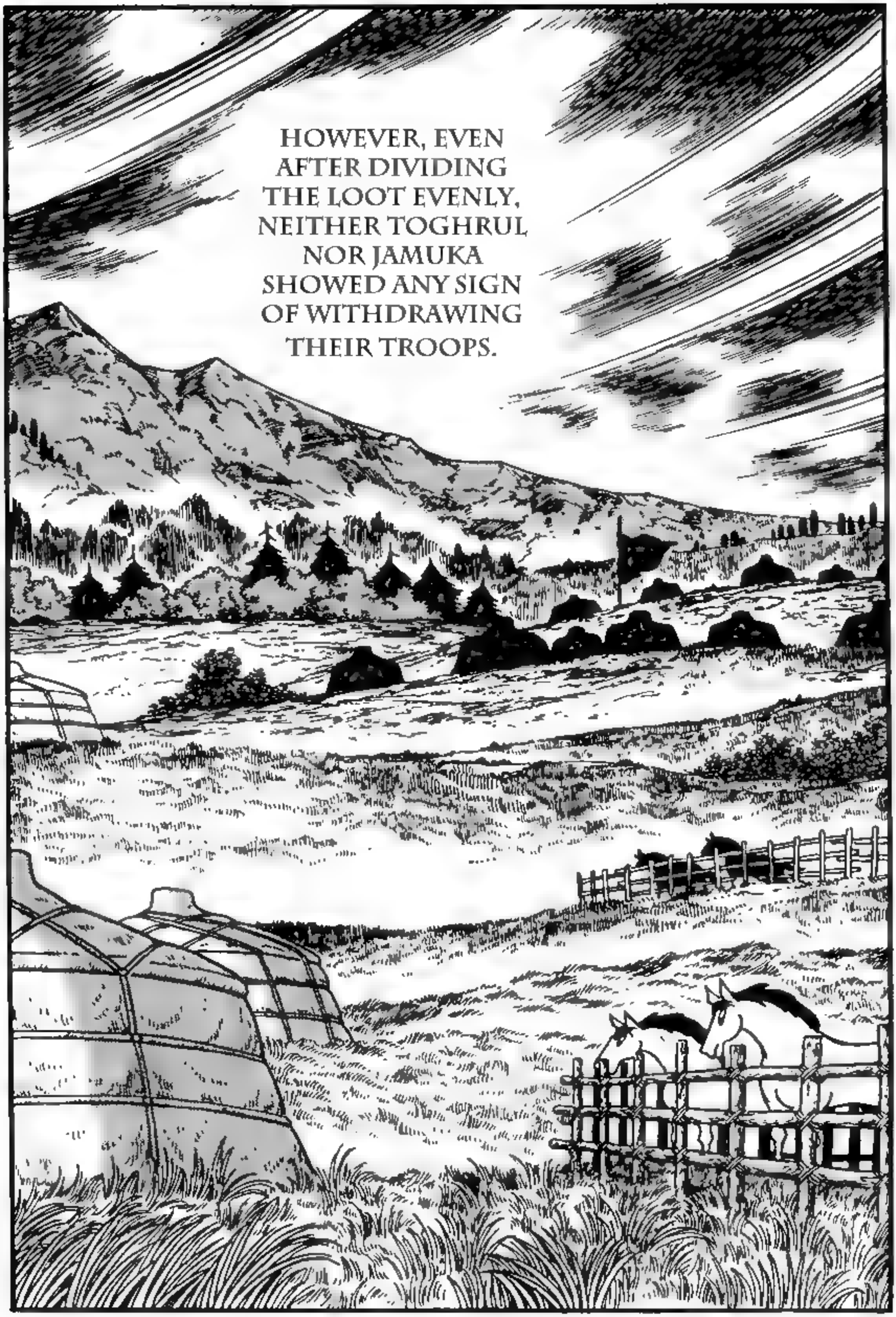
SEVERAL THOUSAND WOMEN.


AND LUXURY GOODS WERE LINED UP OUTSIDE


LET THE SLAVES AND LOOT BE DIVIDED EVENLY BETWEEN JAMUKA AND I!

AS SOON AS THE ORDER WAS GIVEN.

THE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF GOODS AND SLAVES WAS DIVIDED QUICKLY, FOR THEY WERE ALL USED TO THE TASK OF SORTING AND SPLIT-TING THE PLUNDER


HOWEVER, EVEN AFTER DIVIDING THE LOOT EVENLY, NEITHER TOGHRUL NOR JAMUKA SHOWED ANY SIGN OF WITHDRAWING THEIR TROOPS.

YES, THAT'S BEEN ON MY MIND TOO.

TEMUCHIN, IT'S BEEN A WHOLE MONTH AND NEITHER ARMY HAS WITHDRAWN YET. WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

HM?

THOSE TWO MIGHT SAY THEY ARE LIKE BROTHERS, BUT NEITHER TRUSTS THE OTHER.

THAT MAKES SENSE.

EACH IS WORRIED THAT THE OTHER MIGHT STAGE A SNEAK ATTACK IF THEY WERE TO RETREAT WITH THEIR ARMIES.

WHY, WHAT DO YOU THINK NOW?

WHEN TOGHRUL AGREED TO MOBILIZE HIS TROOPS ON MY BEHALF, I REALLY THOUGHT HE WAS MOVED BY HIS FORMER OATH OF ANDA WITH OUR FATHER. NOW, I THINK DIFFERENTLY.

TOGHRUL HAD AN ONGOING CONFLICT WITH THE MERKITS, WHOM HE STRUGGLED TO DEFEAT WITH HIS FORCES ALONE. HE NEEDED JAMUKA'S FORCES, BUT HE KNEW THAT JAMUKA WOULD ONLY WILLINGLY LEND HIS FORCES IN THE CASE OF A JUST CAUSE. IT JUST SO HAPPENED THAT MY REQUEST TO SAVE MY WIFE GAVE HIM THE VERY CAUSE HE SORELY DESIRED.

WHY ELSE WOULD HE MOBILIZE TENS OF THOUSANDS FOR THE SAKE OF OUR TRIBE NOT EVEN 50 IN NUMBER?

YOU'RE SAYING WE WERE USED?

WHAT DO WE NOW THEN? WE CAN'T JUST STAY HERE FOREVER.

I SEE...

TOMORROW, I'LL SUGGEST WITHDRAWING ON THE SAME DAY. IF MY THINKING IS CORRECT, BOTH OF THEM SHOULD BE EAGER TO ACCEPT SUCH A DEAL.

WITHDRAW ON THE SAME DAY ON THE SAME HOUR?

AH, YES.

YES, SINCE THE BATTLE IS OVER AND THE LOOT IS DIVIDED, I THOUGHT PERHAPS YOUR MEN WOULD WISH TO RETURN TO THEIR FAMILIES NOW...

YES, INDEED.

JAMUKA, THE MEN IN YOUR TRIBE MUST FEEL THE SAME, NO?

YES, THAT SOUNDS IDEAL.

THEN SHALL WE ALL WITHDRAW ON THE SAME DAY ON THE SAME HOUR?

HOW DOES TWO DAYS FROM NOW AT DAWN SOUND?

WHICH DAY WILL IT BE THEN?

HAHAHA. YES WE MUST ALL THINK OF WHAT OUR MEN WOULD WANT.

SOUNDS GOOD.

YES.

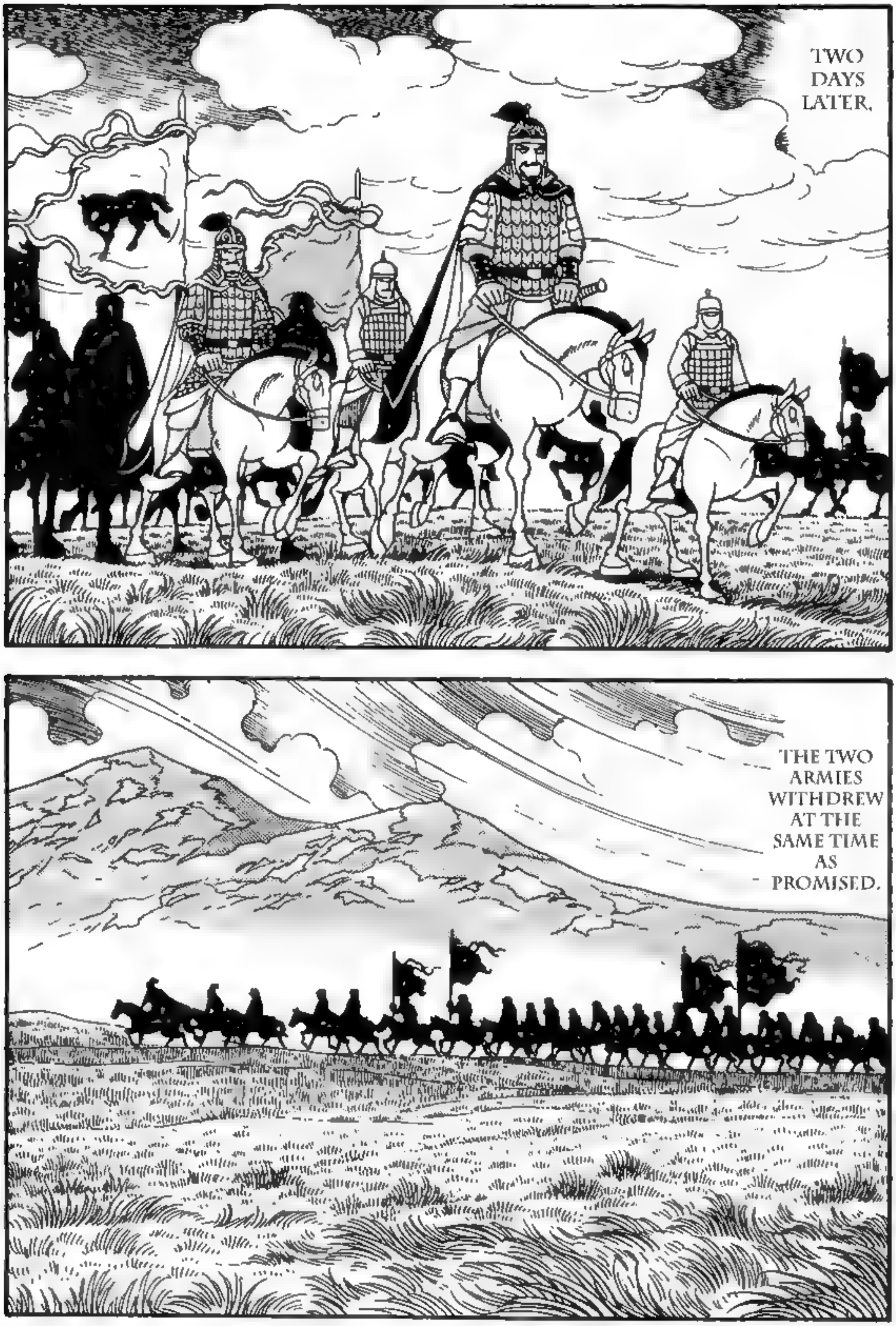
I TOO WILL ALSO WITHDRAW ON THAT DAY THEN.

YES, THANK YOU.

TEMUCHIN, IF YOU EVER HAVE ANY OTHER TROUBLES, FEEL FREE TO COME CONSULT ME.

JUST WHAT IS AN ANDA? WHAT IS AN OATH OF BROTHERHOOD? ARE THEY NOT MERE WORDS TO USE AND BE USED BY ONE ANOTHER?

JUST AS TEMUCHIN HAD PREDICTED, THE UNTRUSTING TOGHRUL AND JAMUKA WERE HAPPY TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM A THIRD PARTY.


TWO DAYS LATER.
THE TWO ARMIES WITHDREW AT THE SAME TIME AS PROMISED.

TEMUCHIN AND HIS TRIBESMEN ALSO HEADED BACK TO THE BURKHAN KHALDUN

DESPITE THE CAMPAIGN'S SUCCESS, HE RETREATED WITH HEAVY HEART, FOR HIS WIFE WAS NOW PREGNANT WITH A CHILD OF AMBIGUOUS PARENTAGE.

WHY?

EVERYONE, I'M THINKING OF MOVING TO EITHER TOGHRUL OR JAMUKA'S CAMPING GROUNDS ONCE SPRING COMES AROUND. WHAT DO YOU ALL THINK?

I'M SURE BOTH TOGHRUL AND JAMUKA WOULD BE HAPPY TO TAKE US IN, SINCE EACH IS EAGER TO INCREASE THEIR POWER AND GAIN AN EDGE OVER THE OTHER.

JUST AS THE MERKITS RAIDED US, THE TAYICHI'UT MIGHT STRIKE AT ANY TIME. I CANNOT ALLOW OUR TRIBE TO FACE ANOTHER TRAGEDY, WHICH IS WHY I WISH TO STAY NEAR A STRONG, FRIENDLY TRIBE FOR THE TIME BEING.

WHY IS THAT?

IN THAT CASE, I SAY WE GO OVER TO JAMUKA.

YES, I THINK JAMUKA WILL BE THE BETTER CHOICE AS WELL.

JAMUKA'S A FELLOW MONGOL. WE ARE BOUND TO HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN TOGHRUL AND US.

I'LL FOLLOW YOUR DECISION, WHATEVER IT IS, TEMUCHIN.

ANY OTHER OPINIONS?

NOPE.

ANY DISSENTERS?

UNDERSTOOD. WE'LL DEPART TOMORROW.

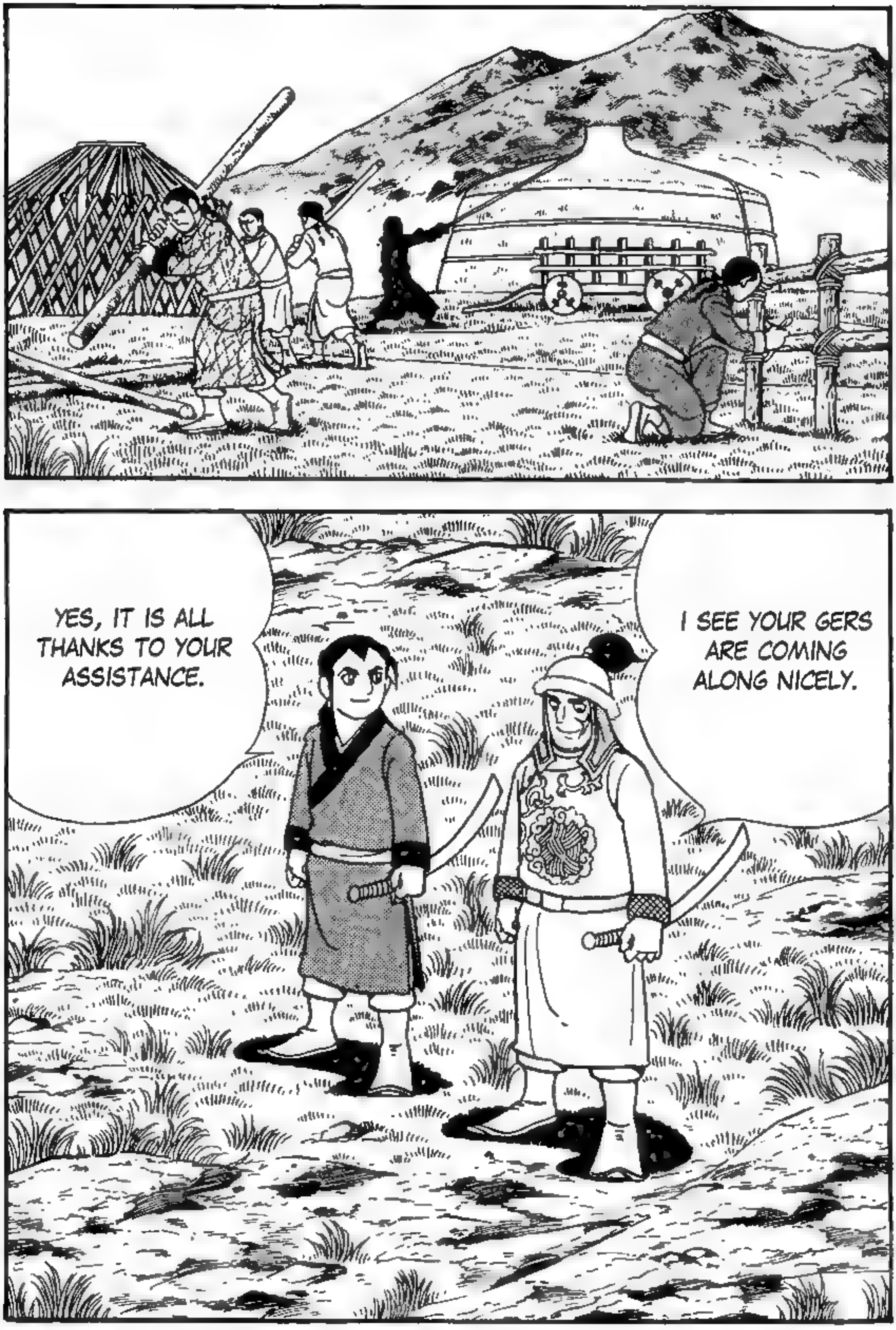
VERY WELL. BELGUTEI, KASAR. I WANT THE TWO OF YOU TO GO OVER TO JAMUKA NOW AND TELL HIM OUR TRIBE WILL BE JOINING UP WITH HIS IN THE COMING SPRING.

THE NEXT DAY, BELGUTEI AND KASAR HEADED OFF TO QORQONAQ THROUGH THE SNOWY STEPPE.

JAMUKA WAS HAPPY TO GAIN MORE FOLLOWERS AND CONSENTED IMMEDIATELY.

SPRING CAME.

AND WHILE TRACES OF SNOW COULD STILL BE SEEN HERE AND THERE, TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE BEGAN THEIR MOVE TO QORQONAQ.


YES, IT IS ALL THANKS TO YOUR ASSISTANCE.
I SEE YOUR GERS ARE COMING ALONG NICELY.

THEN SHALL WE SWEAR THE OATH OF ANDA?

YES, I AGREE.

YOU KNOW, SINCE OUR FATHERS WERE CLOSE FRIENDS, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD FORGE CLOSER TIES AS WELL.

THE RECENT EXPERIENCE WITH TOGHRUL KHAN AND JAMUKA HAD SHOWED TEMUCHIN JUST HOW EMPTY OATHS SUCH AS ANDA WERE.

ANDA...?

NO, I WAS JUST... TAKEN ABACK THAT A MAN OF A POWERFUL TRIBE WOULD WANT TO SWEAR AN ANDA WITH THE LEADER OF A SMALL TRIBE.

WHAT'S WRONG? DO YOU NOT WANT TO?

THEN I HAPPILY ACCEPT THE OFFER.

HAHA, DON'T BE SO SELF-EFFACING!

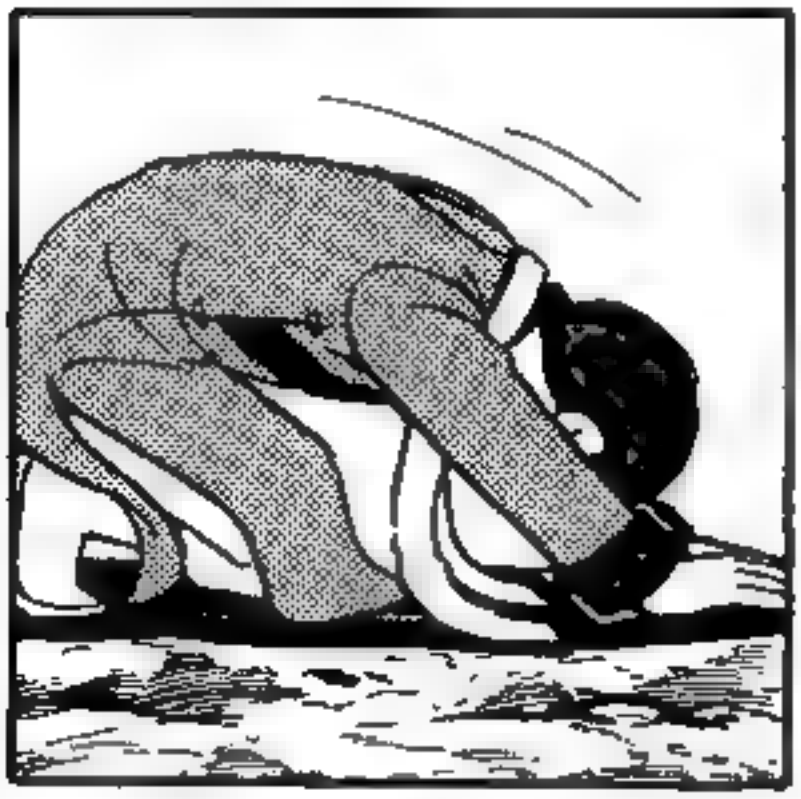
YES.

GOOD, I SHALL ASK A SHAMAN FOR AN AUSPICIOUS DAY TO SWEAR THE OATH.

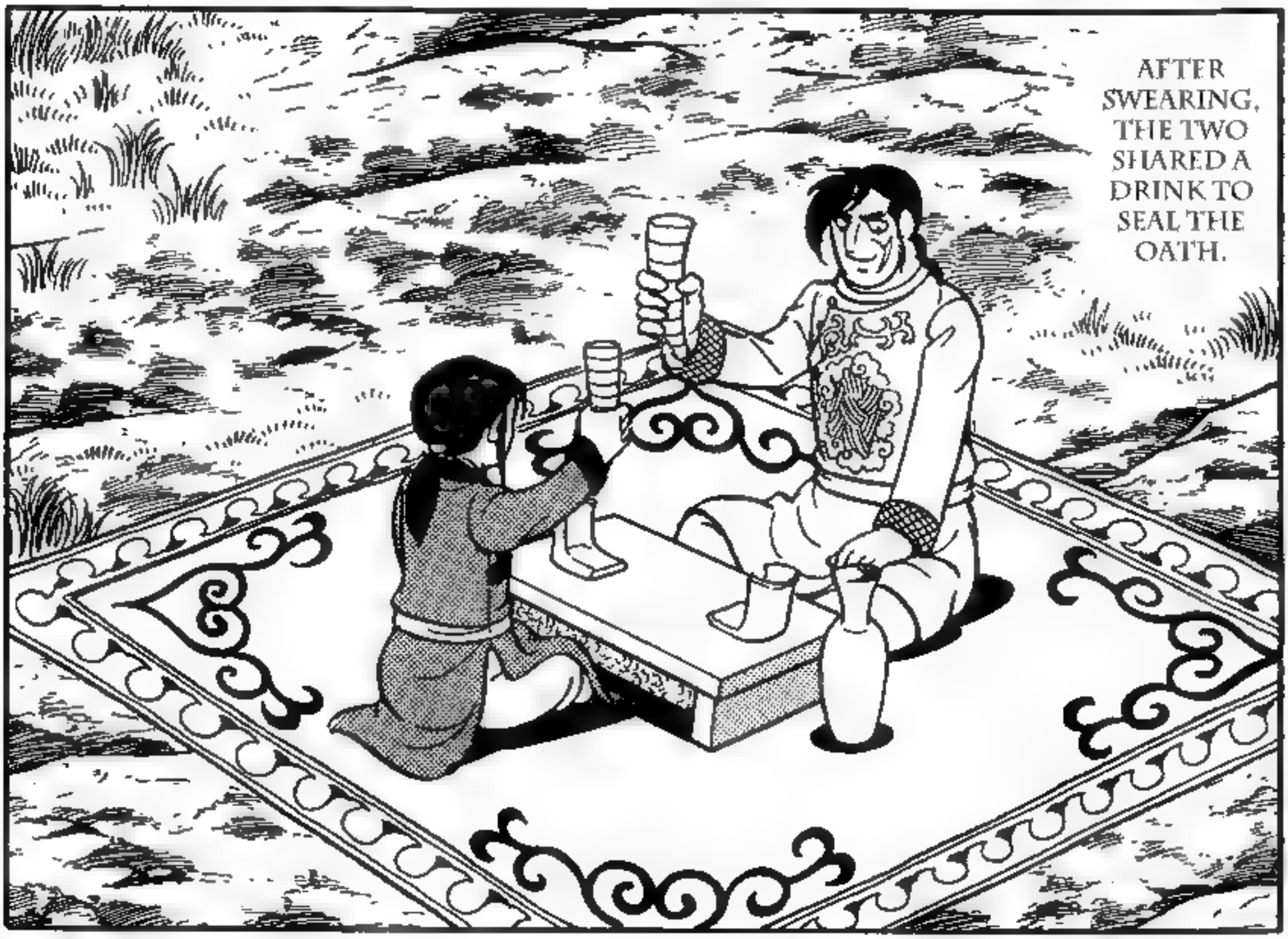
AND SO, ON THE CHOSEN DAY,

THEY CLIMBED UP TO THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAINS OF QORQONAQ.

THERE, THEY SWORE TO THE BLUE SKY, THE GOD OF THE MONGOLS.



WE SWEAR TO HELP ONE ANOTHER AND TREAT THE OTHER AS A BROTHER UNTIL DEATH DO US APART.
O' ETERNAL BLUE SKY, WE KNEEL BEFORE YOU NOW TO SWEAR THE OATH OF ANDA.


AFTER SWEARING, THE TWO SHARED A DRINK TO SEAL THE OATH.

YES, BLOOD-BROTHERS!

HEAR THIS, MY MEN! TEMUJIN AND I HAVE SWORN THE OATH OF ANDA SO FROM THIS DAY FORTH, WE ARE BROTHERS!

THE SHOUTS FROM THE CROWD RINGED HOLLOW FOR TEMUCHIN, FOR HE KNEW HE HAD MERELY SWORN ANOTHER OATH TO USE AND BE USED BY ONE ANOTHER...

Drawbacks of Prominence

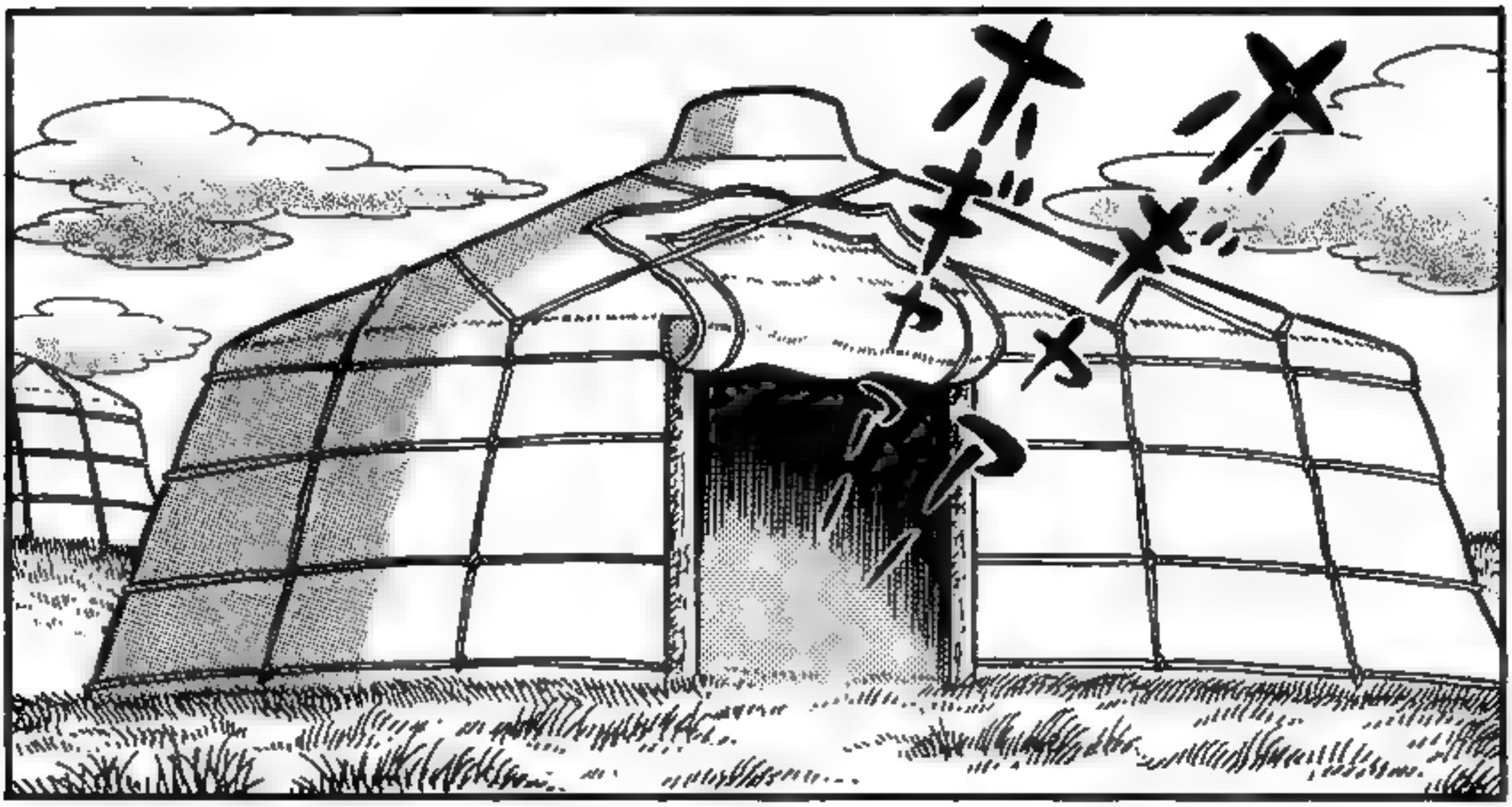
THE SCENT OF NEW FLOWERS AND GRASSES FILLED THE MONGOLIAN STEPPE ONCE MORE.

TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE WAS HARD AT WORK TRYING TO INCREASE THEIR WEALTH.

TEMUCHIN!

YOUR WIFE HAS GIVEN BIRTH!
RIGHT...
YOU SHOULD GO TO YOUR GER RIGHT AWAY. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE HORSES.
GIDDY UP!

A BABY... IT WAS FALL WHEN BÖRTE WAS ABDUCTED, SO I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE BABY TO BE MY CHILD...
THEN AGAIN, IT'S ALSO NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT THE CHILD HAS A MERKIT FATHER...



AH, TEMUCHIN!

LOOK, IT'S A HEALTHY BABY BOY!

OH SURE.

CAN YOU PLEASE LEAVE US ALONE FOR A MOMENT?

YOU WANT ME TO NAME HIM?

GIVE HIM A NAME, DEAR.

OF COURSE. IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO NAME YOUR OWN SON.

DO YOU HAVE ANY PROOF HE ISN'T!?

T-THERE'S NO PROOF HE'S MY SON.

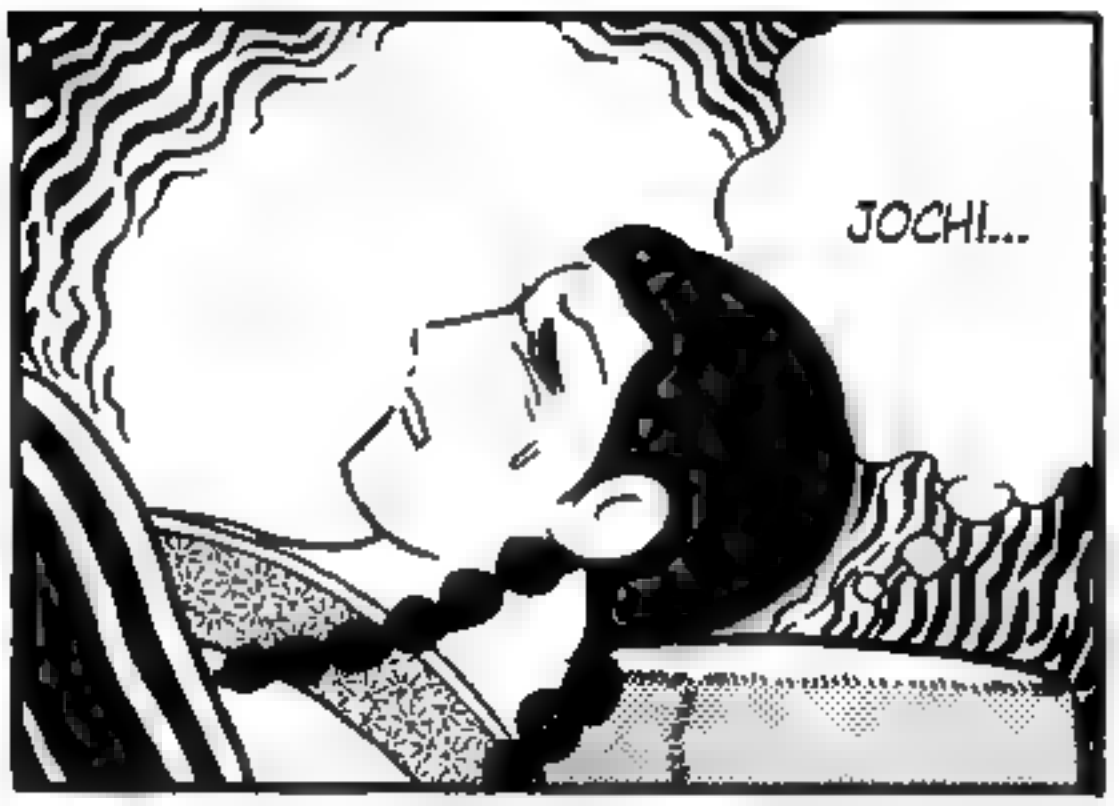
THE BLOOD OF THE BLUE-GRAY WOLF FLOWS IN HIM AS WELL NO MATTER WHAT. YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU!?

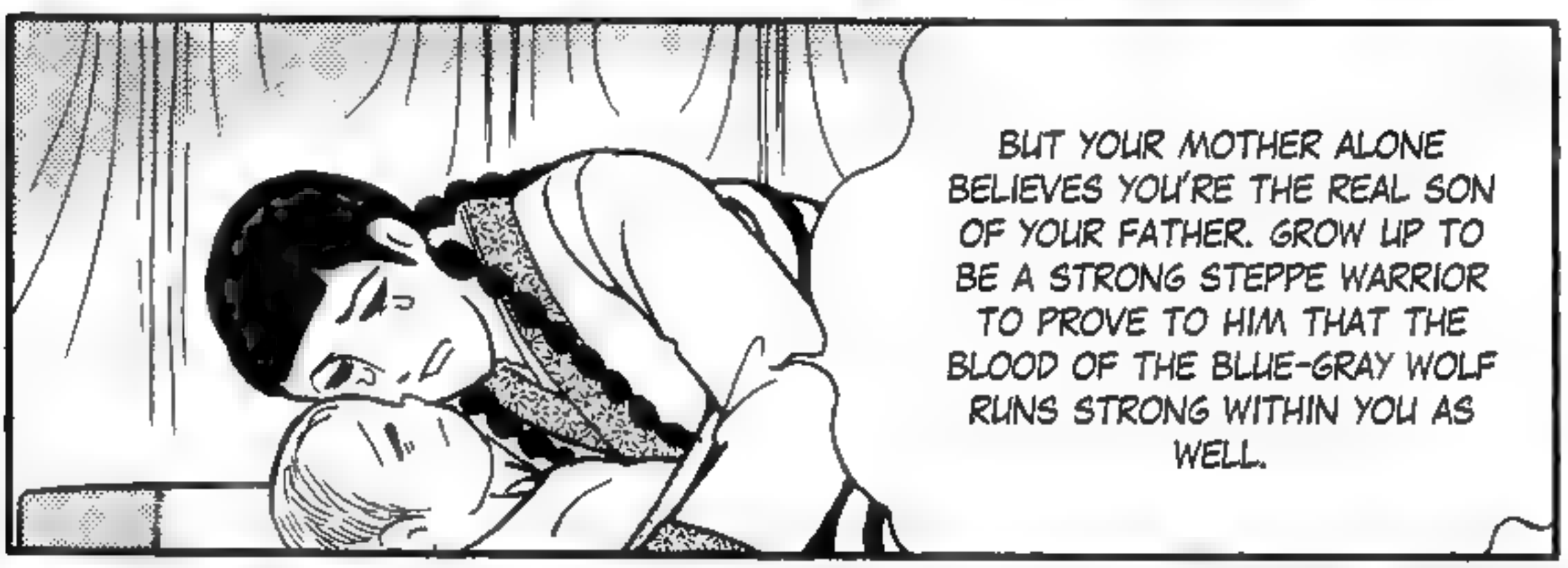
BLUE GRAY WOLF (BURTE CHINO) LEGENDARY ANCESTOR OF MONGOLS

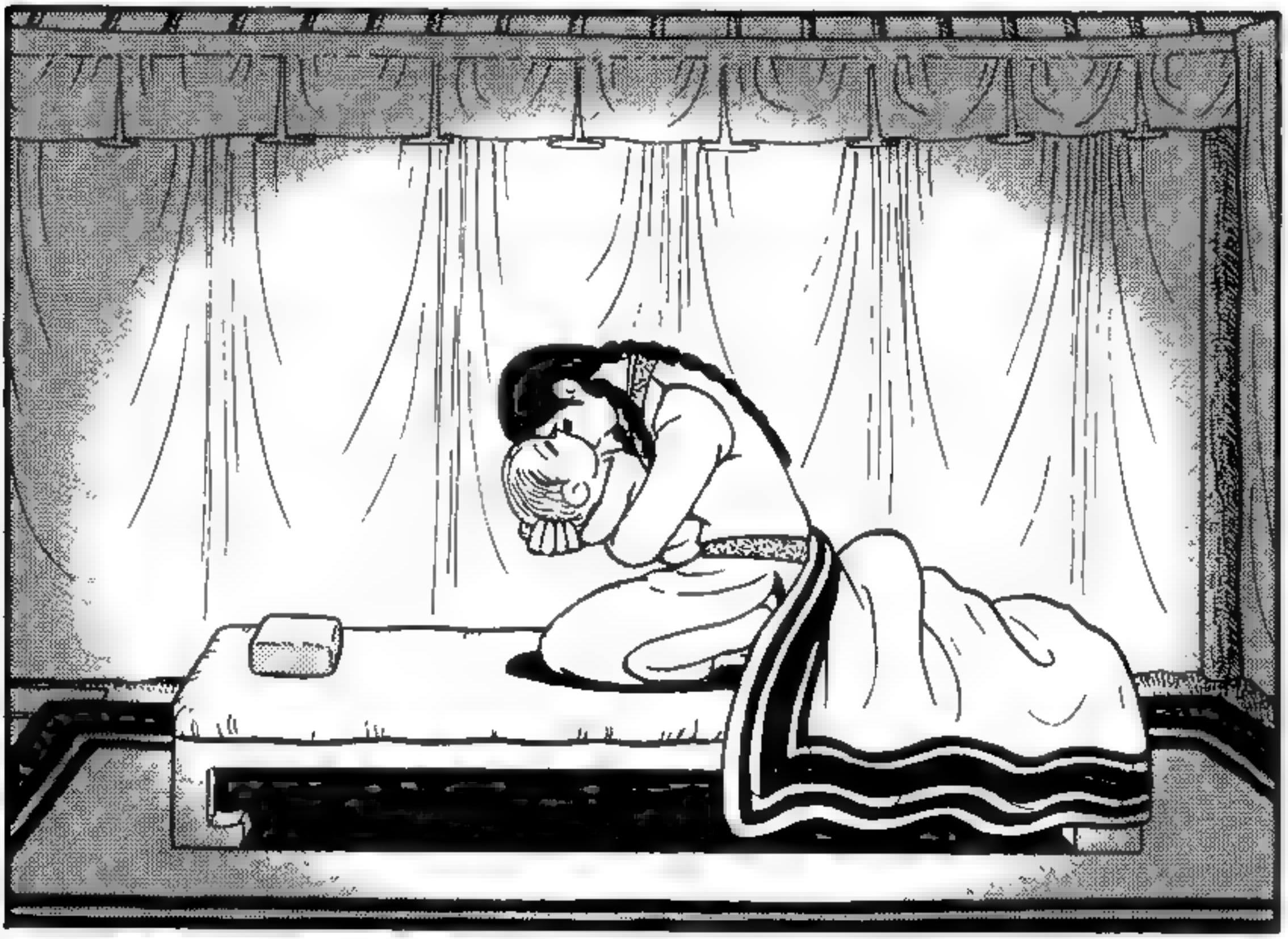
THE NAME OF THIS CHILD WILL BE JOCHI (GUEST).

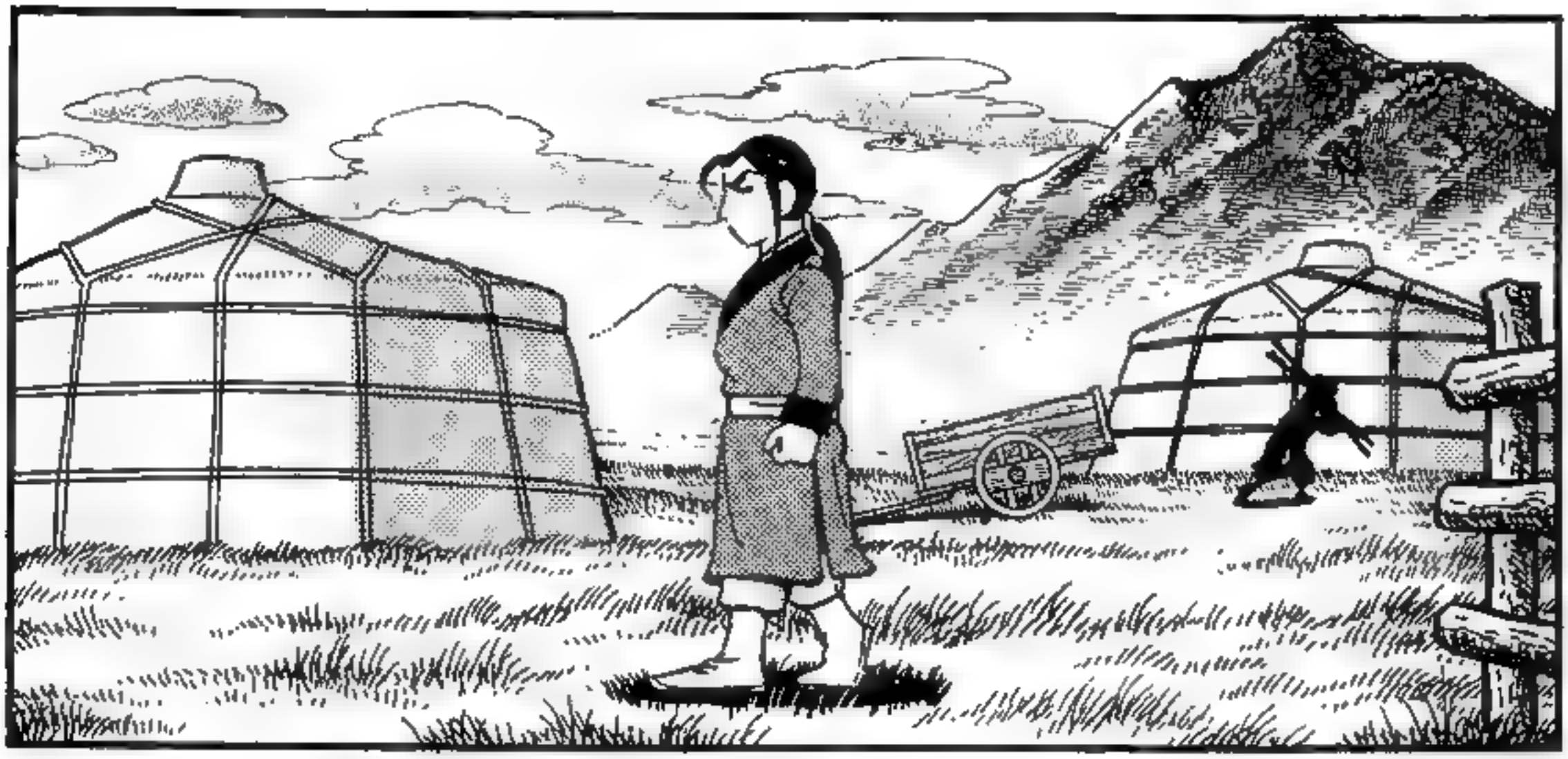
JOCHI!?

MY POOR SON... YOU'VE BEEN BORN TO A DOUBTING FATHER.


JOCHI...


BUT YOUR MOTHER ALONE BELIEVES YOU'RE THE REAL SON OF YOUR FATHER. GROW UP TO BE A STRONG STEPPE WARRIOR TO PROVE TO HIM THAT THE BLOOD OF THE BLUE-GRAY WOLF RUNS STRONG WITHIN YOU AS WELL.

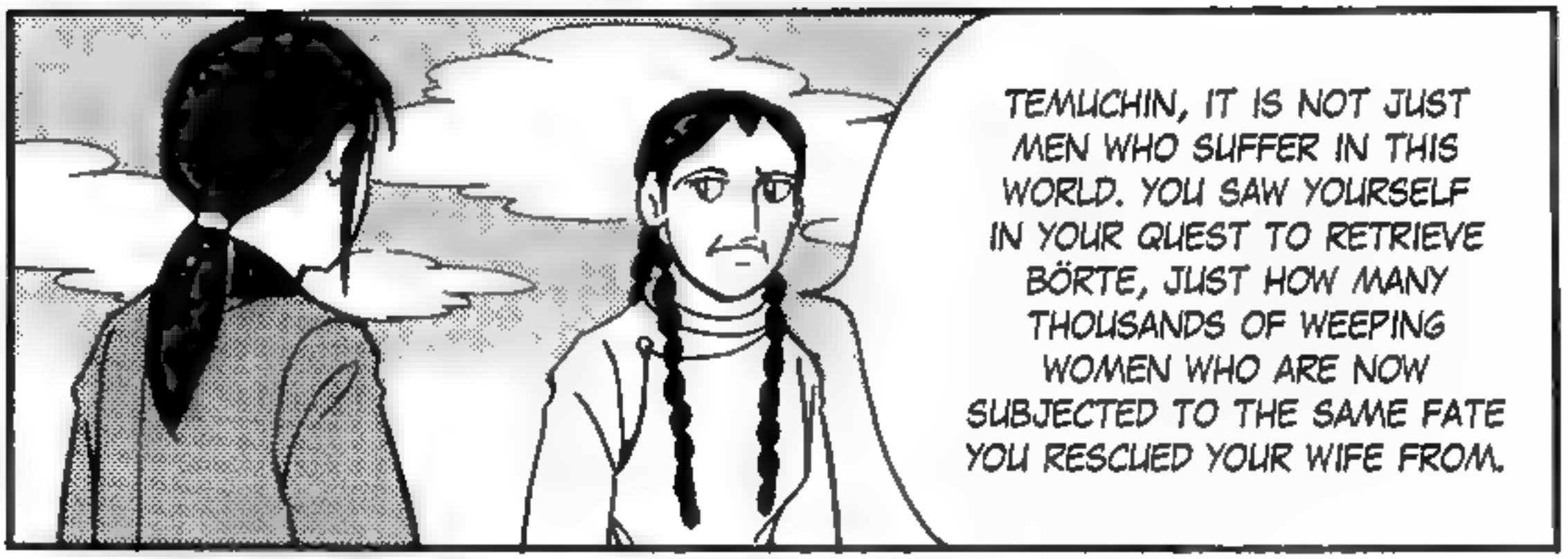




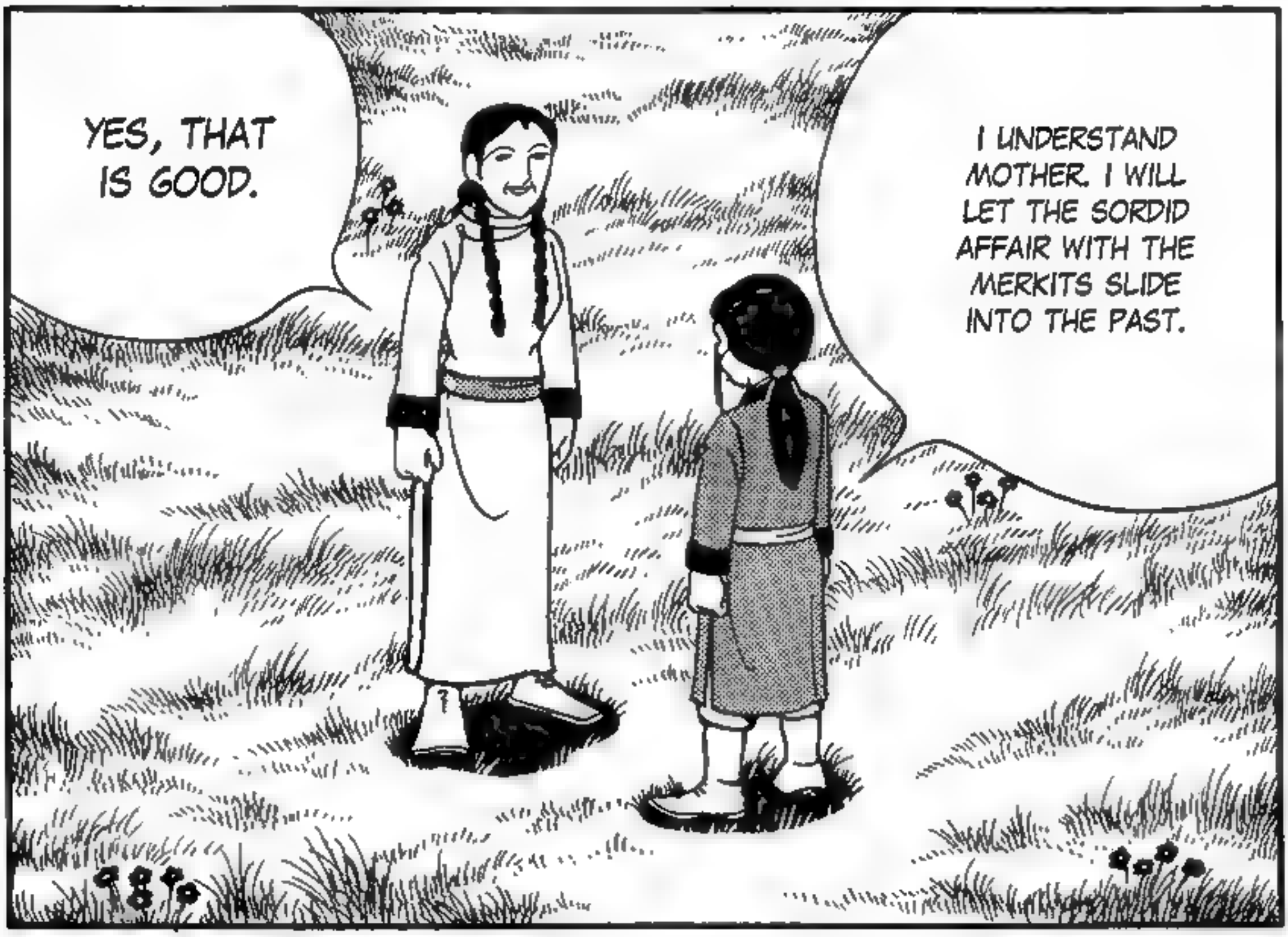
YES, MOTHER?
TEMUCHIN.

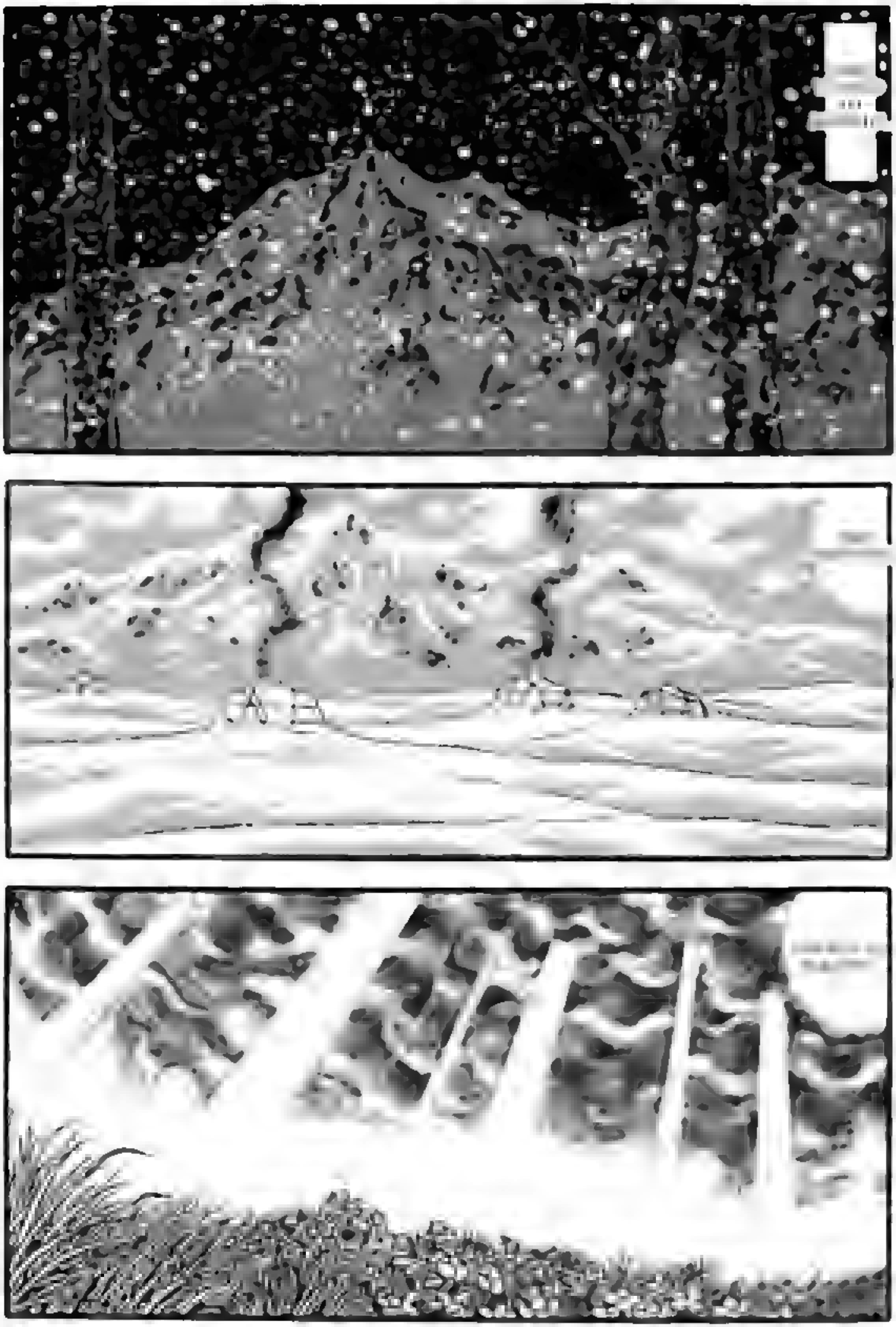
THE MEN OF THE STEPPE LIVE A HARD EXISTENCE, DEFINED SHARPLY BY LIFE AND DEATH. EVEN A BOY TALLER THAN A HORSE CART'S WHEELS IS SEEN AS A MAN AND IS THUS A LEGITIMATE TARGET FOR KILLING.

WOMEN, ON THE OTHER HAND, DO NOT HAVE TO TREAD SUCH A NARROW ROPE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH, FOR THEY HAVE MORE VALUE BEING KEPT ALIVE. NEVERTHELESS, THE FATE OF BEING MARRIED OFF TO AN UNKNOWN MAN OF UNKNOWN HERITAGE, TO BE JUST ONE AMONG HIS MANY CONCUBINES MUST NOT BE OVERLOOKED.
LONG AGO, I WAS CHILEDU'S WIFE BUT YOUR FATHER RODE IN ONE DAY TO STEAL ME AWAY. THIS IS WHY THE MERKITS HARBOURED A GRUDGE AND ATTACKED US.


TEMUCHIN, IT IS NOT JUST MEN WHO SUFFER IN THIS WORLD. YOU SAW YOURSELF IN YOUR QUEST TO RETRIEVE BÖRTE, JUST HOW MANY THOUSANDS OF WEEPING WOMEN WHO ARE NOW SUBJECTED TO THE SAME FATE YOU RESCUED YOUR WIFE FROM.

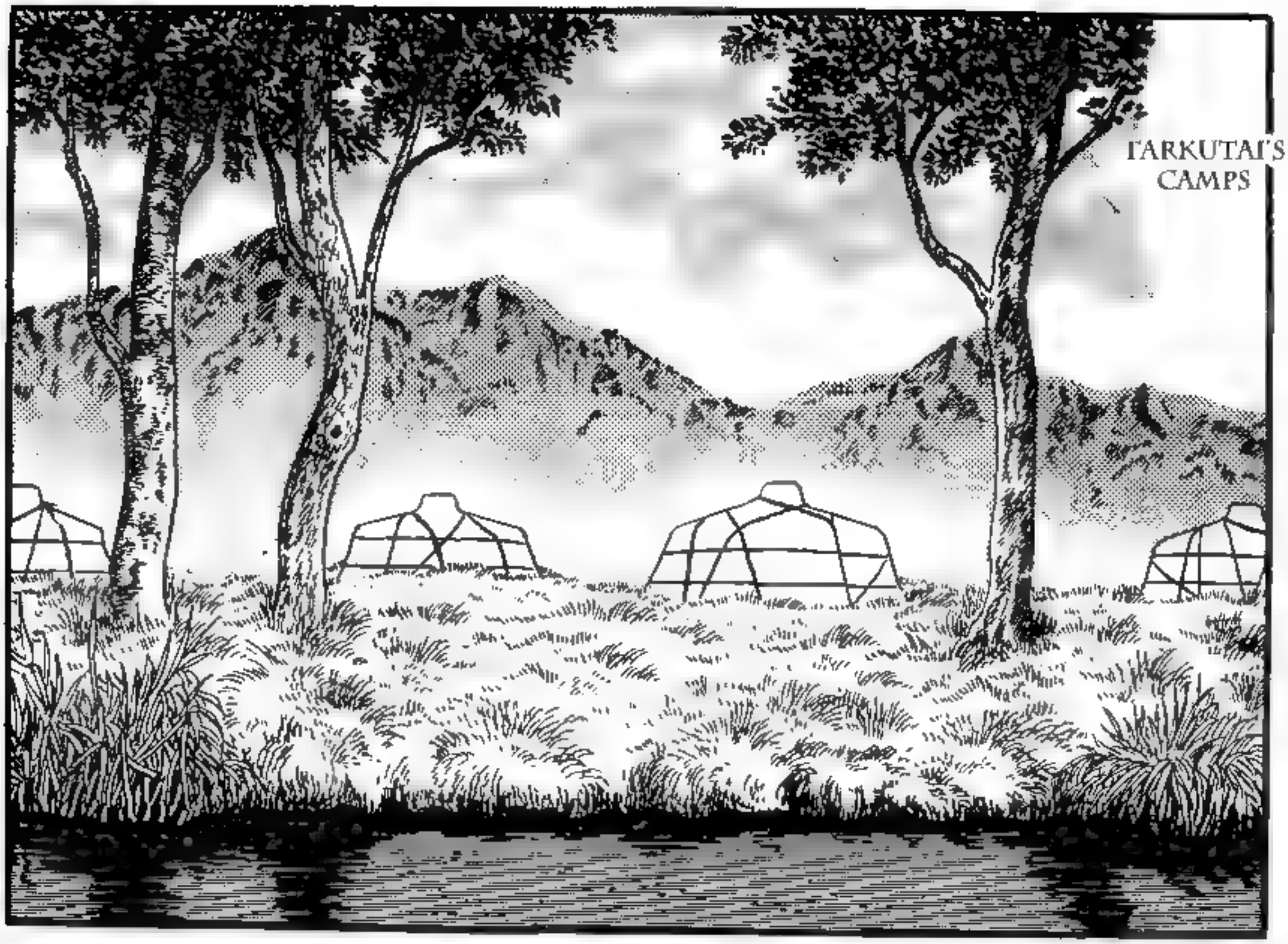
SO DO NOT MAKE LIGHT OF WOMEN'S SUFFERING. BÖRTE HAS SUFFERED AND SO YOU MUST TREAT HER WELL.


YES, THAT IS GOOD.
I UNDERSTAND MOTHER. I WILL LET THE SORDID AFFAIR WITH THE MERKITS SLIDE INTO THE PAST.



TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE HAD STARTED ATTRACTING MORE FOLLOWERS. SOME CAME ON HORSE CARRIAGES.

SOME ON HORSEBACK.. THEY WERE MOSTLY FORMER TAYICHI'UT FOLLOWERS OF YISUGEI WHO DECIDED TO FOLLOW TARKUTAI AFTER YISUGEI'S DEATH.


TARKUTAI'S
CAMPS

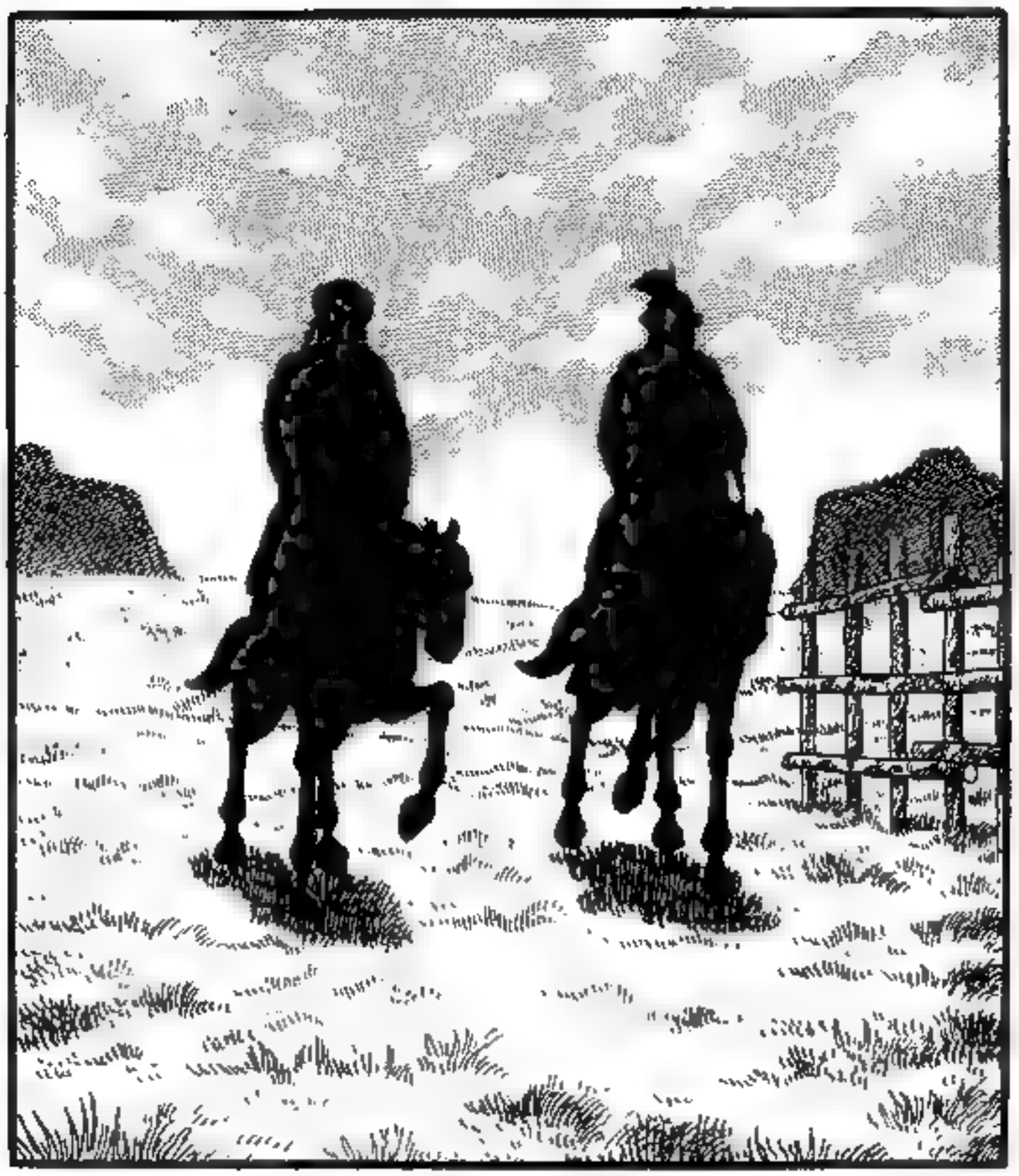
YES, THEY MUST HAVE SNUCK OFF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
WHAT!? THE NUMBER OF GERS DECREASED AGAIN!?

MUST DO SOME-THING...?

AT THIS RATE, ALL OUR FOLLOWERS WILL END UP GOING OVER TO TEMUCHIN! WE MUST DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT!

OF COURSE I KNOW SOMETHING **MUST BE DONE!** BUT HE'S GOT JAMUKA RIGHT BY HIM AS HIS ANDA NOW! IF WE TRIED TO DO ANYTHING, IT'D MEAN DEALING WITH JAMUKA'S ARMY! FORGET ATTACKING TEMUCHIN, WE HAVE TO WORRY MORE ABOUT WHEN ***HE'LL*** ATTACK ***US!***

CURSES! I SHOULD HAVE JUST KILLED THAT BRAT WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE!



WE WISH TO SPEAK WITH TEMUCHIN.

AND I AM KUCHAR.

WE ARE JAMUKA'S FOLLOWERS. I AM ALTAN.

AND WHOM MAY YOU BE?

WAIT HERE A MOMENT. I WILL BRING HIM SHORTLY.

?

TEMUCHIN, FOLLOWERS OF JAMUKA CALLED ALTAN AND KUCHAR HAVE COME TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

NO, WE HAVE COME TODAY ON OUR OWN ACCORD.

DO YOU CARRY A MESSAGE FROM JAMUKA?

WE SEEK PERMISSION TO JOIN YOUR CAMPS AS YOUR TRIBESMEN.

AND FOR WHAT REASON, MAY I ASK?

I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO ASK EXACTLY WHAT YOUR REASONS ARE FOR THIS MOVE.

?

YES.

PLEASE, TAKE A SEAT.

AS MEMBERS OF JAMUKA'S TRIBE, YOU NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT ANY DANGERS OR DISCOMFORT. WHY THEN, DO YOU SEEK TO LIVE WITH A SMALLER TRIBE, SUCH AS THE ONE I LEAD?

HMM?

CERTAINLY, WE FACE NO DANGERS IN JAMUKA'S TRIBE, BUT THERE IS STILL DISCOMFORT.

IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT?

JAMUKA DIVIDES ANY PROFIT EVENLY AMONG HIS TRIBESMEN.

HOWEVER, WE RECEIVE JUST AS MUCH PROFIT AS THE LAZY WHO DO NOT EVEN WORK HALF AS HARD AS AN AVERAGE MAN.

YES, FOR WE WISH TO MAKE OUR-SELVES RICHER AND WE THUS WORK 3 TIMES HARDER THAN YOUR AVERAGE MAN.

YES, WE ARE A SMALL TRIBE AND THUS NEED HARD WORKERS.

HOWEVER, WE HEAR THAT YOU REWARD YOUR TRIBESMEN ACCORDINGLY WITH HOW MUCH EFFORT THEY HAVE PUT IN.

HMM...

THAT IS WHY WE SEEK YOUR PERMISSION TO MOVE. I'M SURE MANY OTHERS HAVE JOINED YOUR TRIBE AS OF LATE DUE TO SIMILAR REASONS. THE ABLE WILL ALWAYS GATHER WHERE THEY ARE JUSTLY REWARDED. YOUR TRIBE WILL GROW ONLY LARGER WITH TIME.

YES.

VERY WELL. HOWEVER, SINCE JAMUKA AND I ARE ANDA, WE MUST OBTAIN JAMUKA'S CONSENT AS WELL.

THANK YOU, TEMUCHIN.

AS LONG AS JAMUKA APPROVES, I WILL GLADLY TAKE YOU IN.

"THE ABLE WILL GATHER WHERE THEY ARE JUSTLY REWARDED..."

YES. THANKS TO YOUR AID, MY TRIBE HAS BEGUN TO FIND ITS FOOTING AGAIN.
TEMUCHIN, I HEAR YOUR TRIBE'S FORMER FOLLOWERS HAVE STARTED TO COME BACK ONE BY ONE.
WHY, DID THEY DO SOMETHING?
BUT I'VE COME TODAY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER OF ALTAN AND KUCHAR.

ALTAN AND KUCHAR, EH...

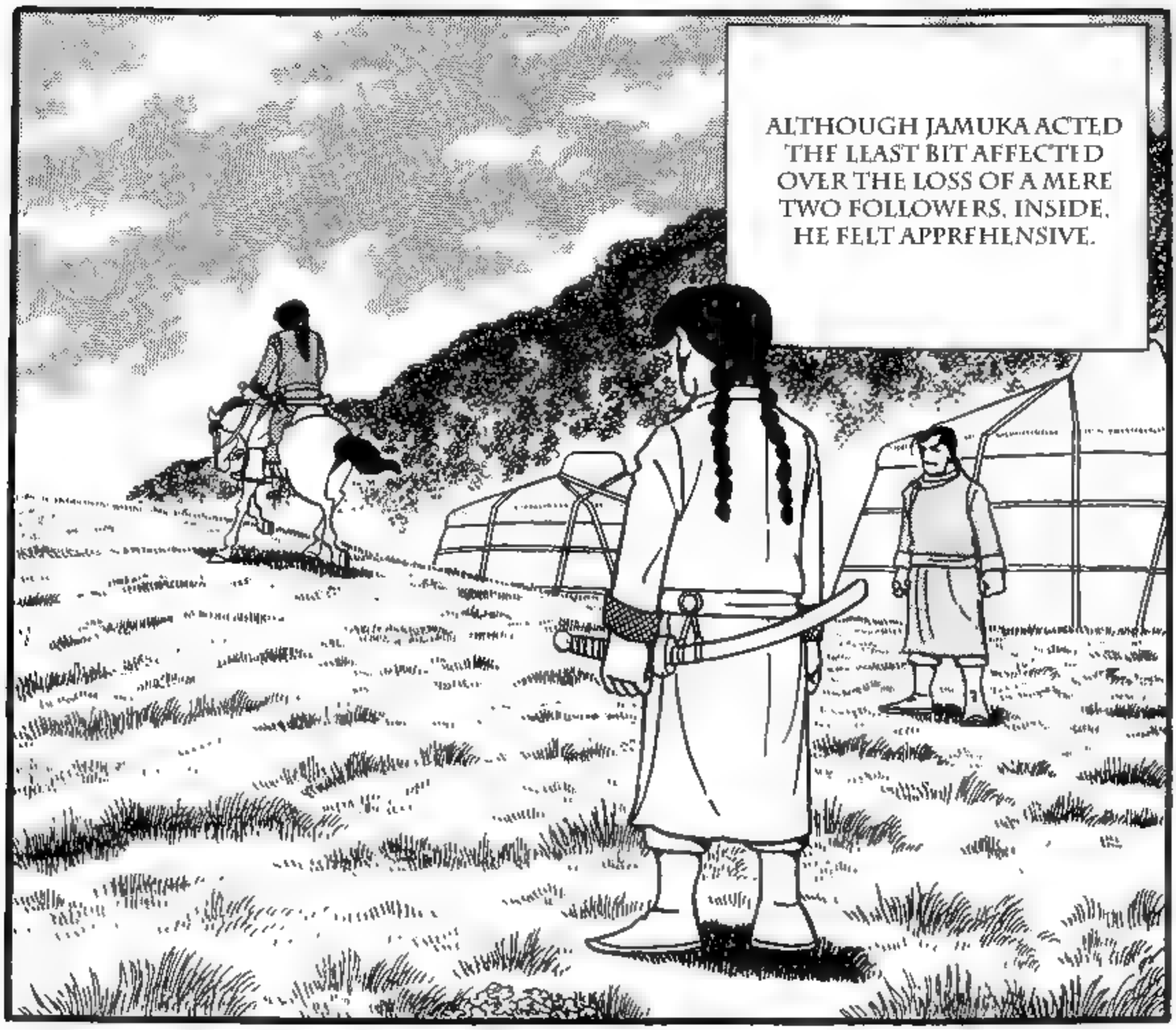
THEY ASKED ME IF THEY COULD JOIN MY TRIBE, BUT I REPLIED IT WOULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE IF THEY HAD YOUR CONSENT...

HAHAHA, NOMADIC CAMPS ARE A FLUID GROUP. PEOPLE JOIN AND LEAVE AT THEIR WILL. I WILL NOT STOP THOSE WHO WISH TO LEAVE, SO FEEL FREE TO GIVE THEM A WARM WELCOME.

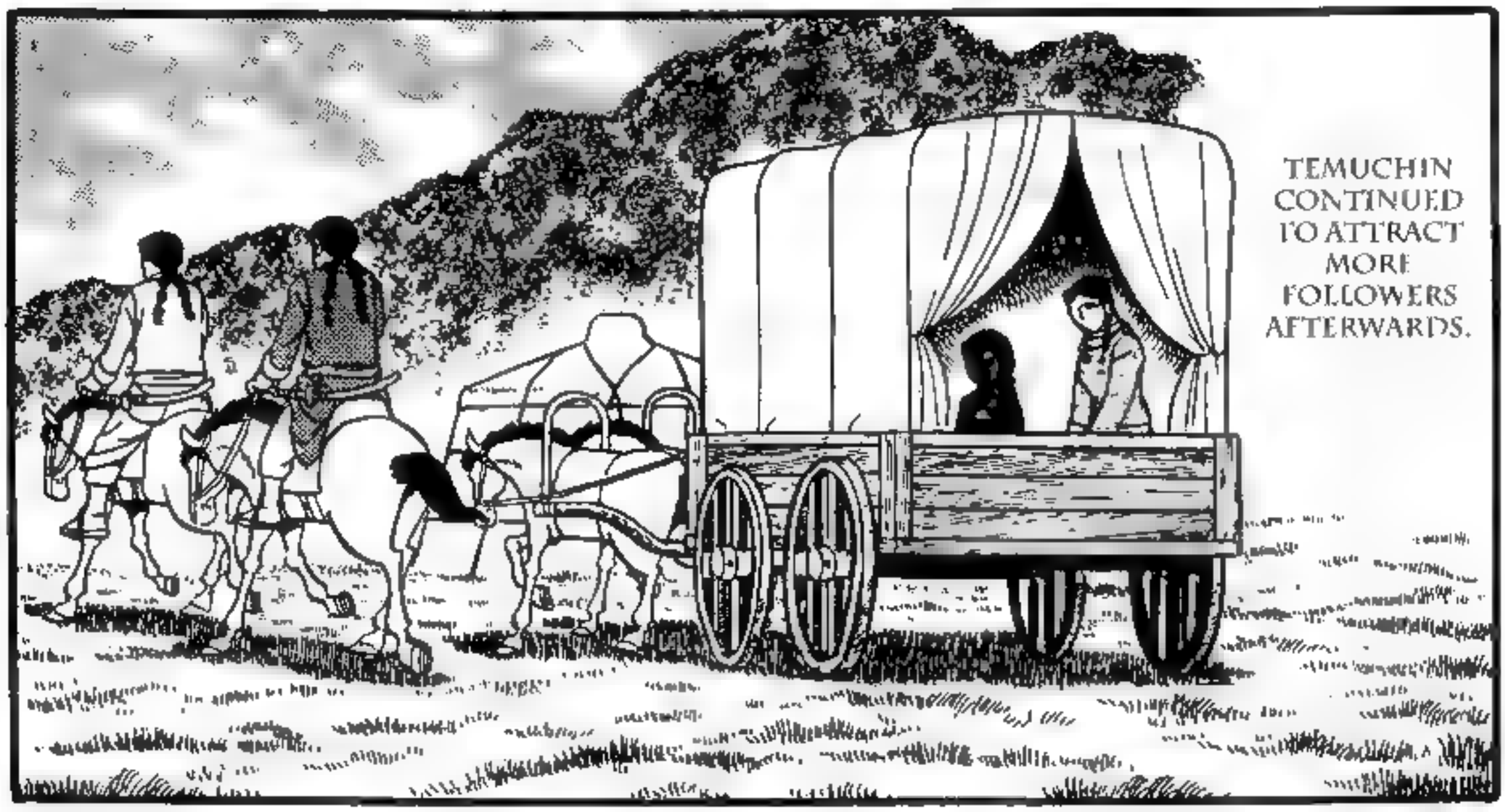
YES.

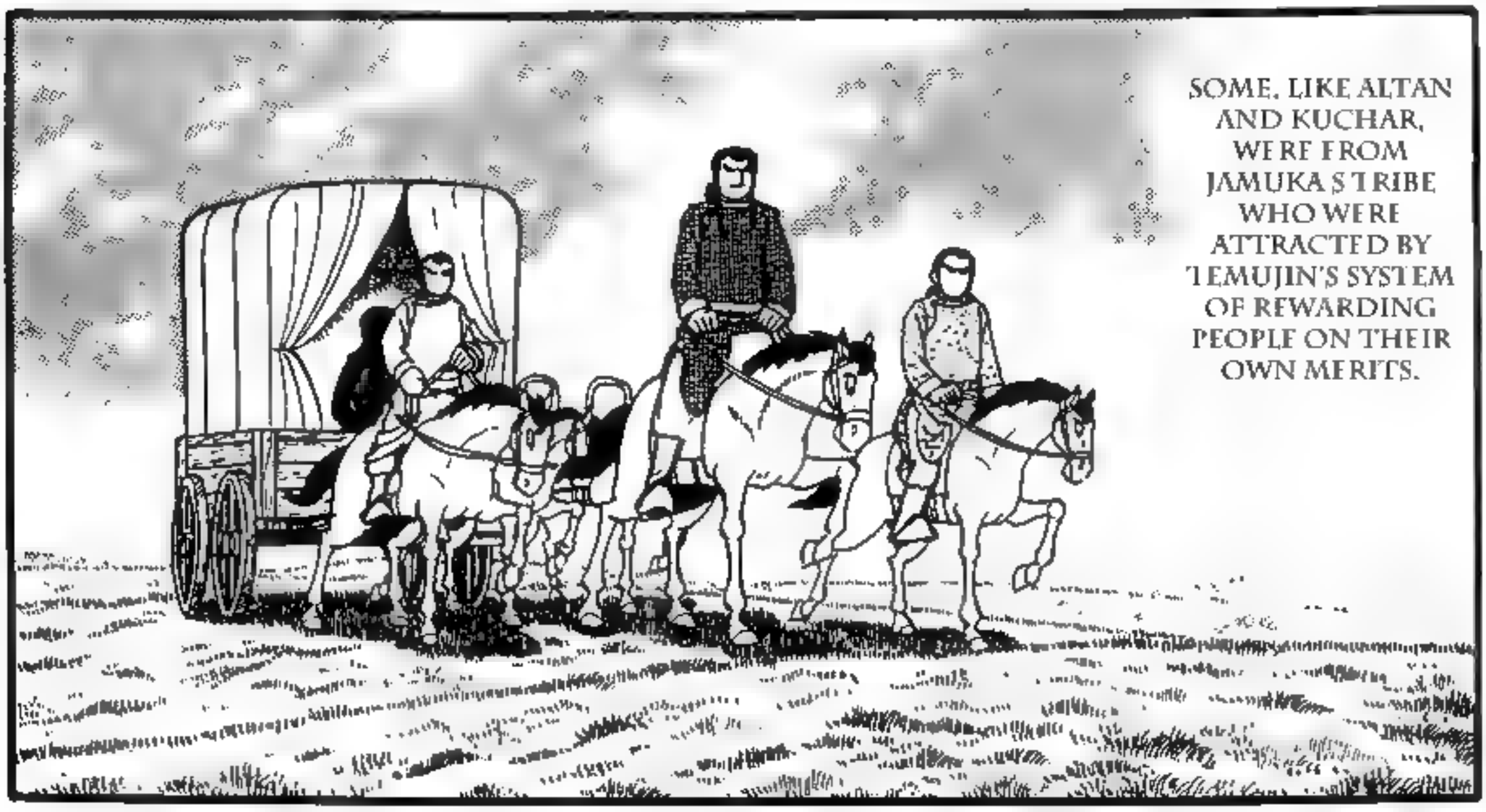
VERY WELL, I SHALL TELL THEM THEY CAN COME.

I MUST EXCUSE MYSELF NOW.
YES, BUT LET US HAVE A DRINK TOGETHER ANOTHER TIME.

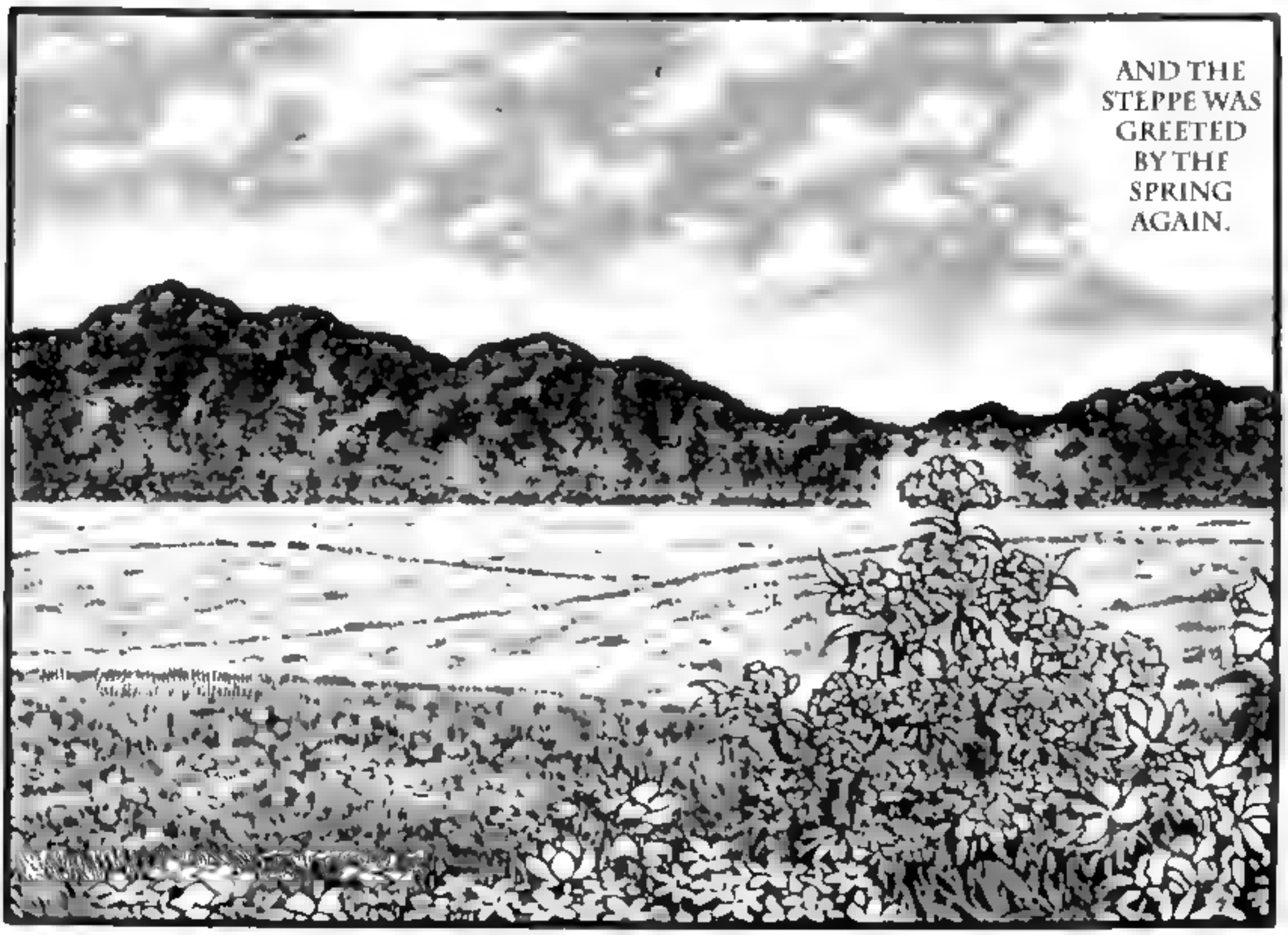

ALTHOUGH JAMUKA ACTED THE LEAST BIT AFFECTED OVER THE LOSS OF A MERE TWO FOLLOWERS, INSIDE, HE FELT APPREHENSIVE.

WHY... WHY IS IT THAT PEOPLE ARE DRAWN TO HIS SMALL TRIBE...?


TEMUCHIN CONTINUED TO ATTRACT MORE FOLLOWERS AFTERWARDS.


SOME, LIKE ALTAN AND KUCHAR, WERE FROM JAMUKA'S TRIBE WHO WERE ATTRACTED BY TEMUJIN'S SYSTEM OF REWARDING PEOPLE ON THEIR OWN MERITS.

WINTER CAME AND PASSED.


AND THE STEPPE WAS GREETED BY THE SPRING AGAIN.

TRUE, BUT IT'S STILL ONLY A TRIBE OF BARELY 3000.

JAMUKA, ARE YOU AWARE THAT TEMUCHIN'S POWER IS GROWING DAY BY DAY?

STILL, HIS TRIBE NUMBERED ONLY 40-50 WHEN HE FIRST CAME HERE UNDER OUR PROTECTION, WHICH WAS NOT TOO LONG AGO.

.....

WHAT REALLY GETS ME IS THE FACT THAT SOME OF OUR OWN JADARAT TRIBESMEN HAVE EVEN GONE OVER TO HIM! WHAT DO YOU THINK MIGHT HAPPEN IF THIS WERE TO CONTINUE?

I SEE NO GAINS TO BE HAD FROM LIVING WITH TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE, ONLY POTENTIAL HARM. IN FACT, I THINK WE WOULD BE BETTER OFF SIDING WITH THE TAYICHI'UT INSTEAD.

FINE, BUT IN THAT CASE, WE MUST DEAL WITH TEMUCHIN BEFORE THE ANNUAL SPRING MIGRATION FOR NEW GRAZING LANDS.

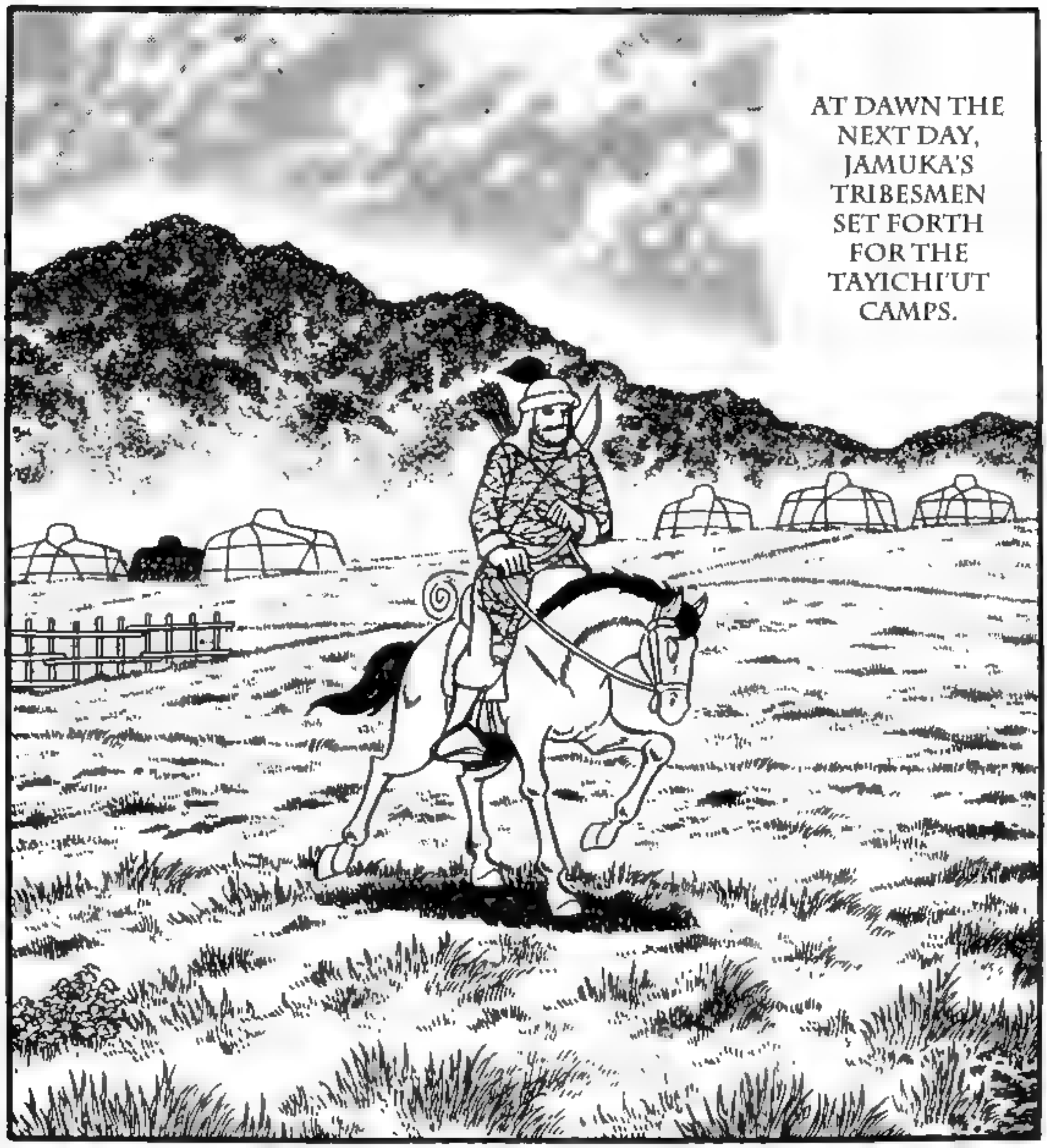
THEY'VE BEEN STEADILY LOSING POWER FROM HAVING MANY OF THEIR TRIBESMEN GO OVER TO TEMUCHIN. THEY'LL SURELY ACCEPT TO A FRIENDLY ALLIANCE IF WE OFFERED IT.

THE TAYICHI'UT, HMM...

YES.

AND SEND A MESSENGER TO TARKUTAI'S TAYICHI'UT TRIBE TOMORROW.

YES, THERE'S NO BENEFIT TO LET TEMUCHIN EAT AWAY AT MY TRIBE WHILE SITTING COMFORT-ABLY UNDER MY WING. AND IF I'M TO DEAL WITH TEMUCHIN, BETTER TO DO SO SOONER THAN LATER.


AT DAWN THE NEXT DAY, JAMUKA'S TRIBESMEN SET FORTH FOR THE TAYICHI'UT CAMPS.

Separation

WITH THE ARRIVAL OF SPRING, TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE BEGAN PREPARATIONS FOR THE MIGRATION FOR NEW GRAZING LANDS

AH, HELLO THERE. YOU'RE ONE OF THE NEWCOMERS FROM JAMUKA'S TRIBE, AREN'T YOU?

TEMUCHIN!

ARE THEY BUSY PREPARING FOR THE MOVE TOO?

YES, I STILL HAVE SOME FAMILY THERE WHICH IS WHY I DROPPED BY YESTERDAY.

THEY'RE NOT PREPARING TO MOVE AT ALL, BUT THEY DO SEEM BUSY IN SOME WAY...

WHY, WHAT'S WRONG?

ACTUALLY, THAT'S THE THING I WANTED TO TELL YOU ABOUT.

IF I HAD TO DESCRIBE IT... I'D SAY THE MOOD OVER AT JAMUKA'S CAMPS RIGHT NOW IS LIKE IN THE MOMENTS OF PREPARATION BEFORE A BATTLE.

BUSY IN SOME WAY...?

YES.

THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME, BUT DO NOT MENTION IT TO ANYONE ELSE.

TEMUCHIN.

HE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO A HUNT BEFORE WE MIGRATE TO NEW GRAZING LANDS.

WHAT MESSAGE DOES JAMUKA HAVE FOR ME?

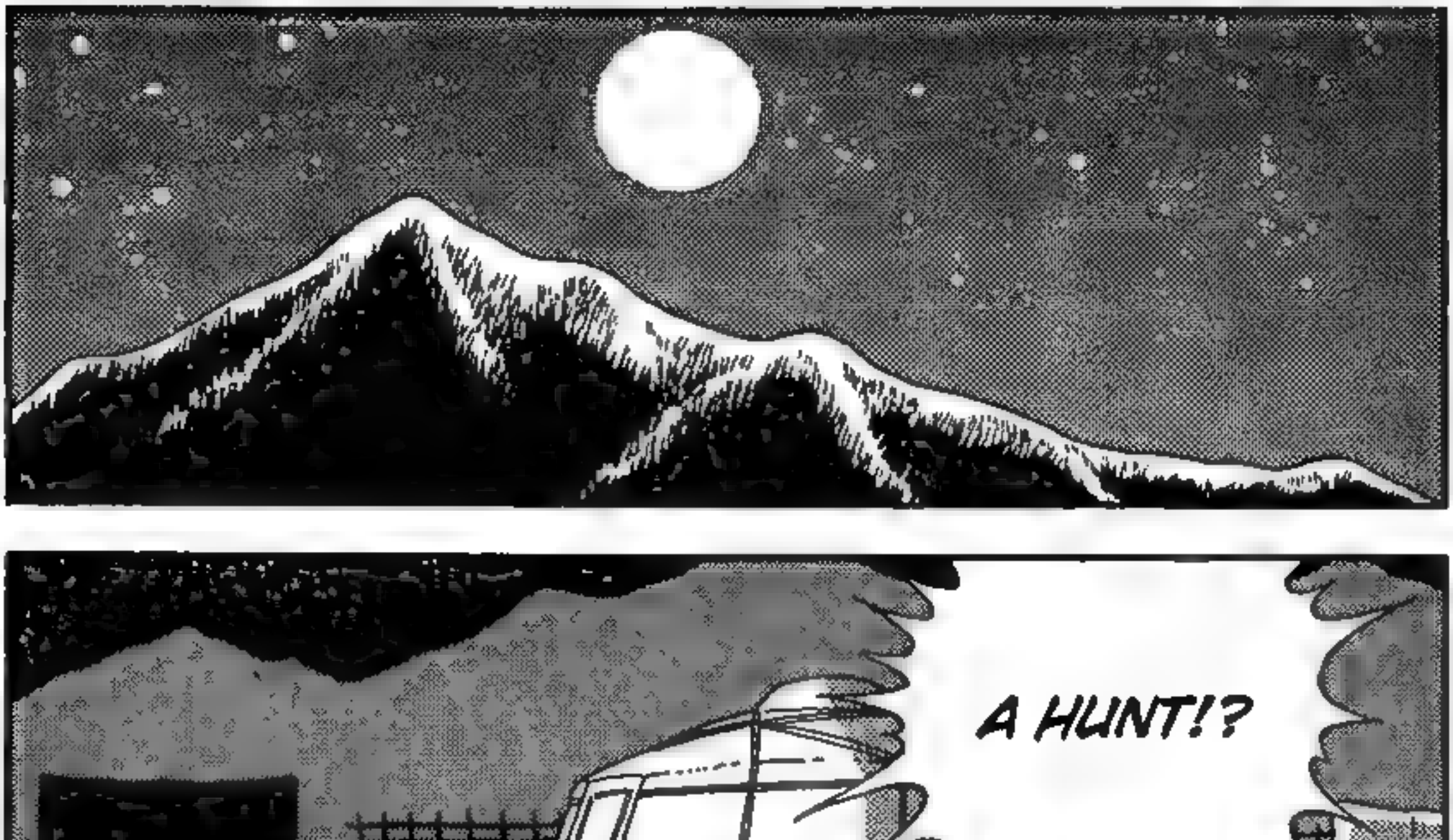
TOMORROW, IF POSSIBLE...

EXACTLY WHEN?

YES.

VERY WELL, TELL HIM I WILL PARTICIPATE.

A HUNT AT THIS BUSY TIME...?


A HUNT!?

IT SEEMS A LITTLE TOO SOON FOR A HUNT IF YOU ASK ME.
WHY WOULD THEY GO HUNTING AT THIS BUSIEST TIME OF THE SEASON?

EXPLAIN FURTHER, BO'ORCHU.

I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

IN ANY CASE, I'M FIRMLY AGAINST YOU PARITICIPAT-ING IN THIS HUNT TOMORROW.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR ONE TRIBE TO BE WARY OF ANOTHER TRIBE'S GROWTH. PERHAPS OUR TRIBE HAS GROWN TOO SUDDENLY FOR ITS OWN GOOD...

ME TOO.

I'M AGAINST IT TOO.

YES, THAT IS A PROBLEM... I DON'T WANT TO THROW AWAY EVERYTHING WE'VE WORKED HARD TO BUILD SINCE COMING HERE...

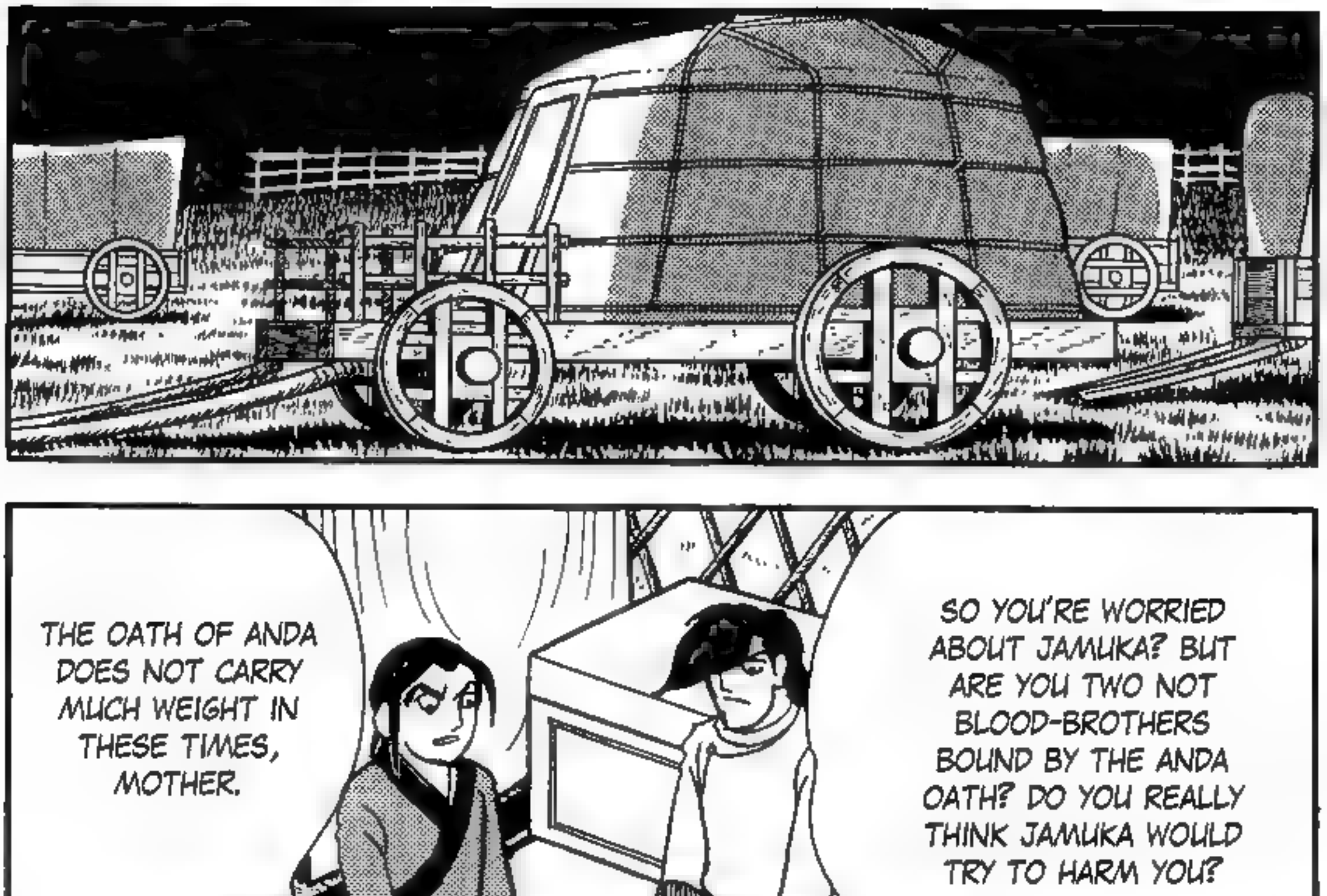
THEN WHAT SHOULD WE DO FROM HEREON?

BUT IF JAMUKA DOES HARBOUR ILL WILL, WAITING MAY LEAVE US TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING.

HOW ABOUT WE STAY HERE AND SEE WHICH WAY JAMUKA MOVES FIRST TO?

YES.

KASAR. GO CALL OUR MOTHER AND BÖRTE HERE. WE SHOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THEM TOO.


THE OATH OF ANDA DOES NOT CARRY MUCH WEIGHT IN THESE TIMES, MOTHER.
SO YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT JAMUKA? BUT ARE YOU TWO NOT BLOOD-BROTHERS BOUND BY THE ANDA OATH? DO YOU REALLY THINK JAMUKA WOULD TRY TO HARM YOU?
OR HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN HOW OUR TRIBE WAS ABAN-DONED BY FRIENDS AND ALLIES ALL IN THE WAKE OF OUR FATHER'S PASSING?

WE MUST MOVE RIGHT NOW!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, BÖRTE?

WHAT!?

I BELIEVE I AM WITH CHILD RIGHT NOW.

IF YOU CANNOT, THEN I AND ALL THE OTHER WOMEN OF OUR TRIBE WILL WALK DOWN THE SAME ROAD AS THE MERKIT WOMEN DID.

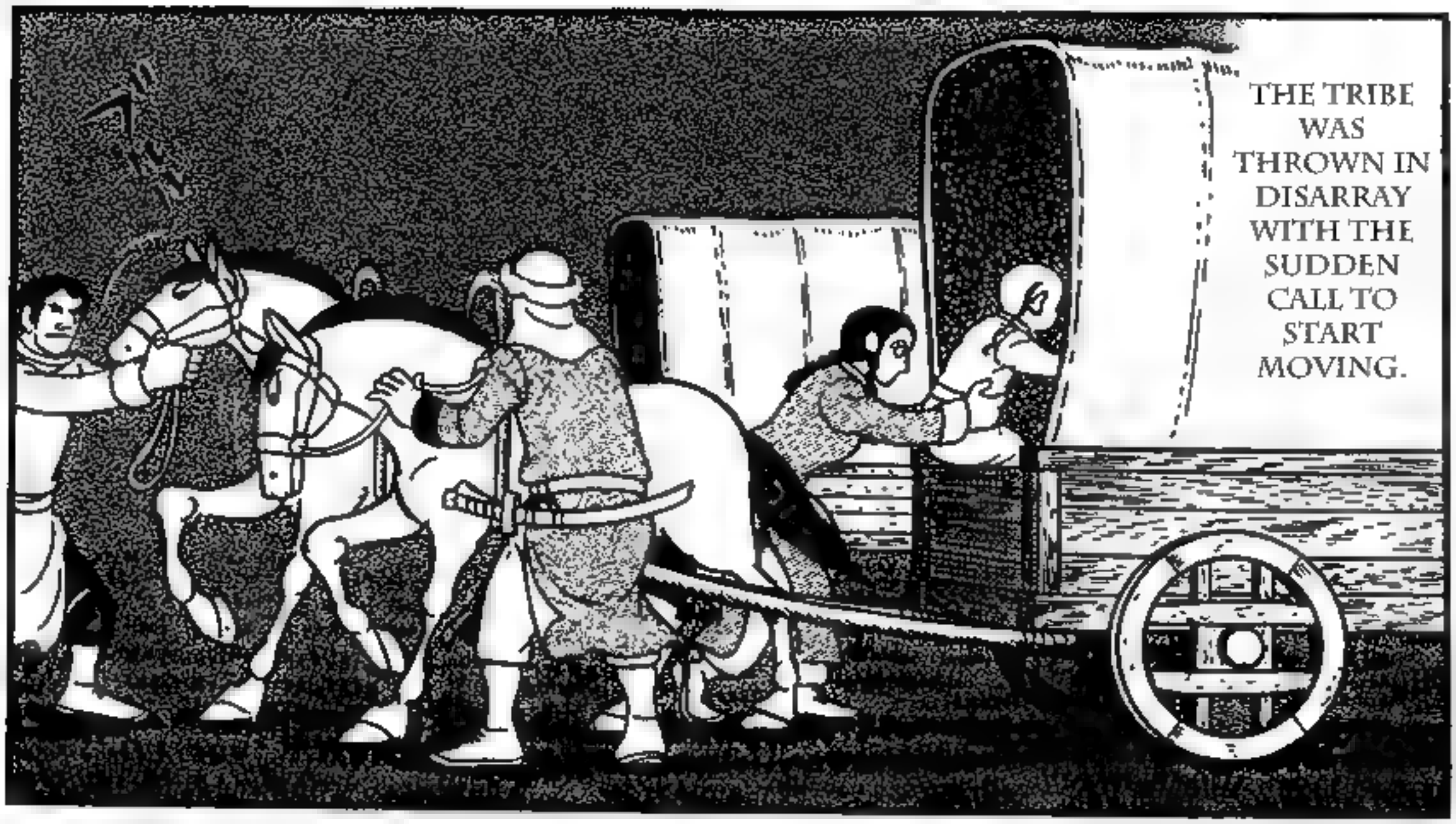
JAMUKA HAS 20,000 MEN AT HIS COMMAND. IF HE WERE TO ATTACK, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP HIM?

WHOSE WIFE WILL I BECOME NEXT...? AND WILL HE NAME MY NEXT CHILD JOCHI AS WELL...?

WAKE THE OTHERS AND TELL THEM TO START MOVING.

UNDERSTOOD. WE WILL BEGIN THE MOVE AT ONCE.

YES.


THE TRIBE WAS THROWN IN DISARRAY WITH THE SUDDEN CALL TO START MOVING.

BUT BEFORE LONG, THE HORSE CAR RIAGES WERE SPURRED ONWARDS.

FEARING PURSUIT FROM JAMUKA, THEY HEADED UPSTREAM OF THE ONON RIVER WITHOUT REST

YES...

BROTHER, THIS IS TAYICHI'UT GRAZING GROUNDS WE'RE PASSING.

YES, OF COURSE.

ALERT THE MEN TO BE READY FOR A FIGHT AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. YOU'VE SENT THE SCOUTS AHEAD ALREADY, RIGHT?

HM!?

OH GOOD.
DON'T WORRY, THOSE ARE OUR SCOUTS.

SO THEY FLED WITHOUT RESISTANCE?

TEMUCHIN! THE TAYICHI'UT HAVE ALL FLED THEIR GERS, THINKING THAT WE HAVE COME FOR A RAID.

BUT...?

YES, BUT...

WHAT!?

THEY SEEMED TO HAVE FLED FOR JAMUKA'S CAMPS.

YES, HE MUST HAVE. THE TAYICHI'UT WOULD NOT HAVE FLED SO EASILY IF THAT WEREN'T THE CASE.

JAMUKA MUST HAVE SECRETLY JOINED HANDS WITH OUR ENEMIES.

YES.

THEN OUR DECISION TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY WAS CORRECT.

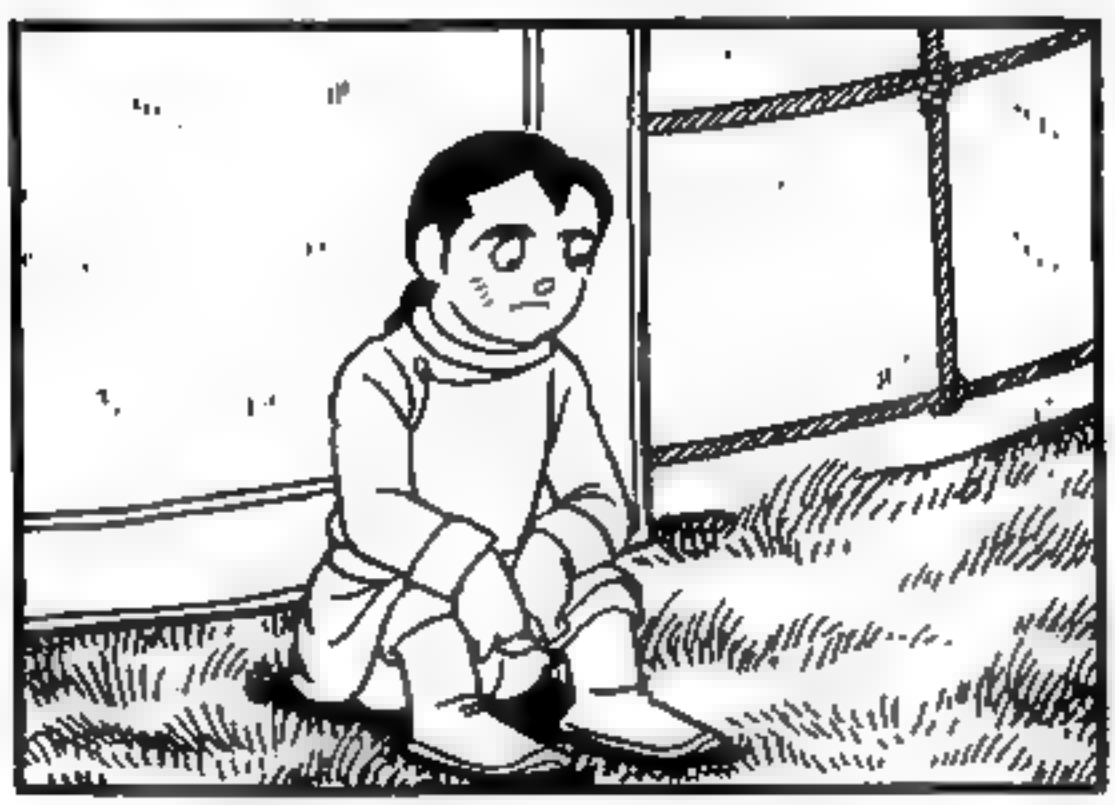
LET US REST HERE MOMENTARILY!

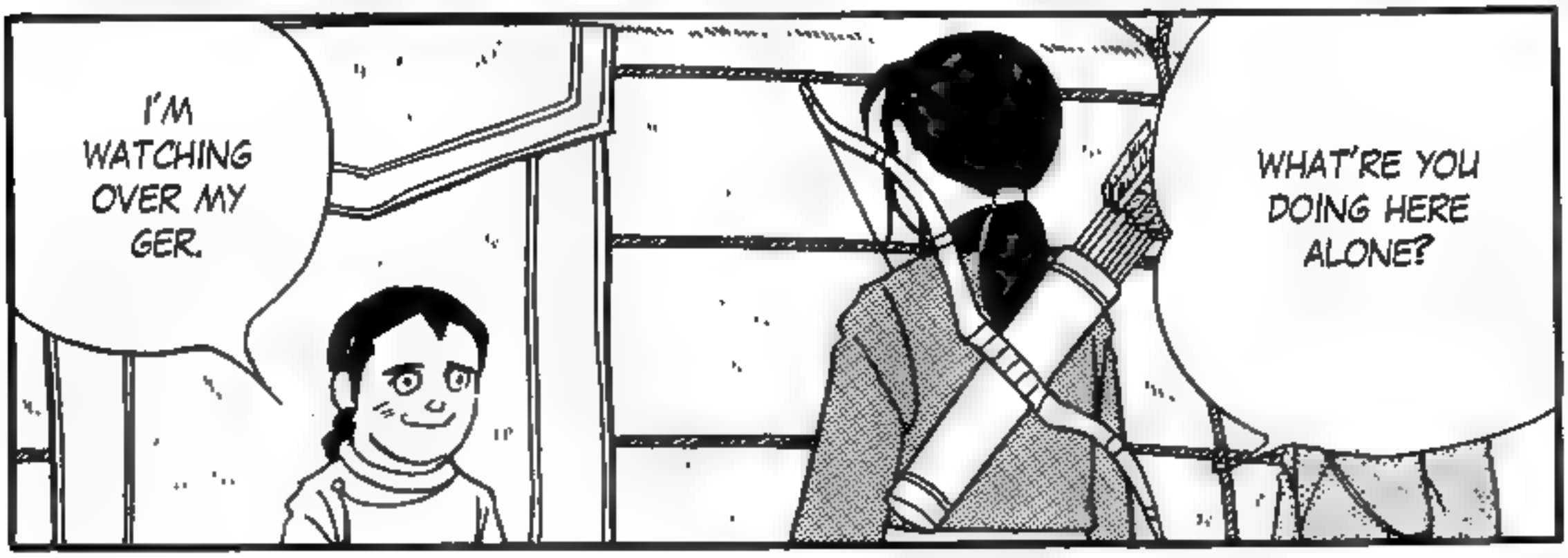
IT WAS NATURAL TO PILLAGE YOUR ENEMIES' GERS IF THEY ABANDONED IT

JUST GRAB WHATEVER YOU CAN USE.

HMPH... THERE AIN'T ANYTHING TOO VALUABLE HERE.

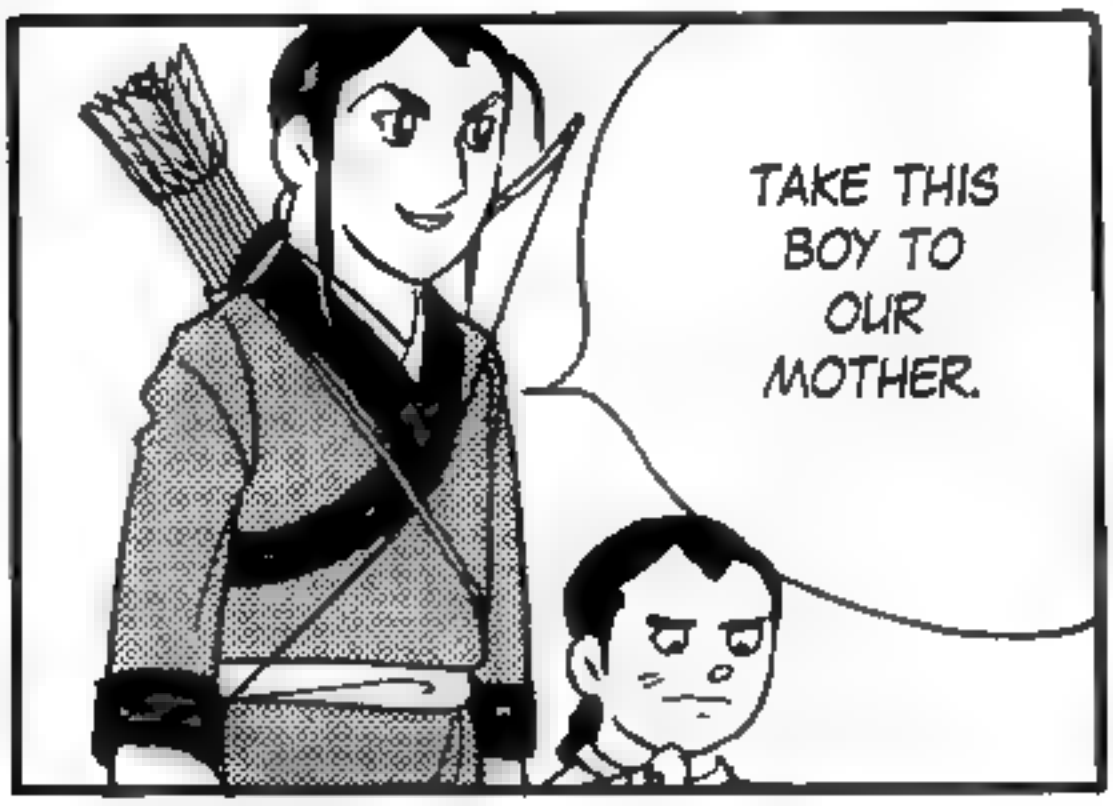
HM?

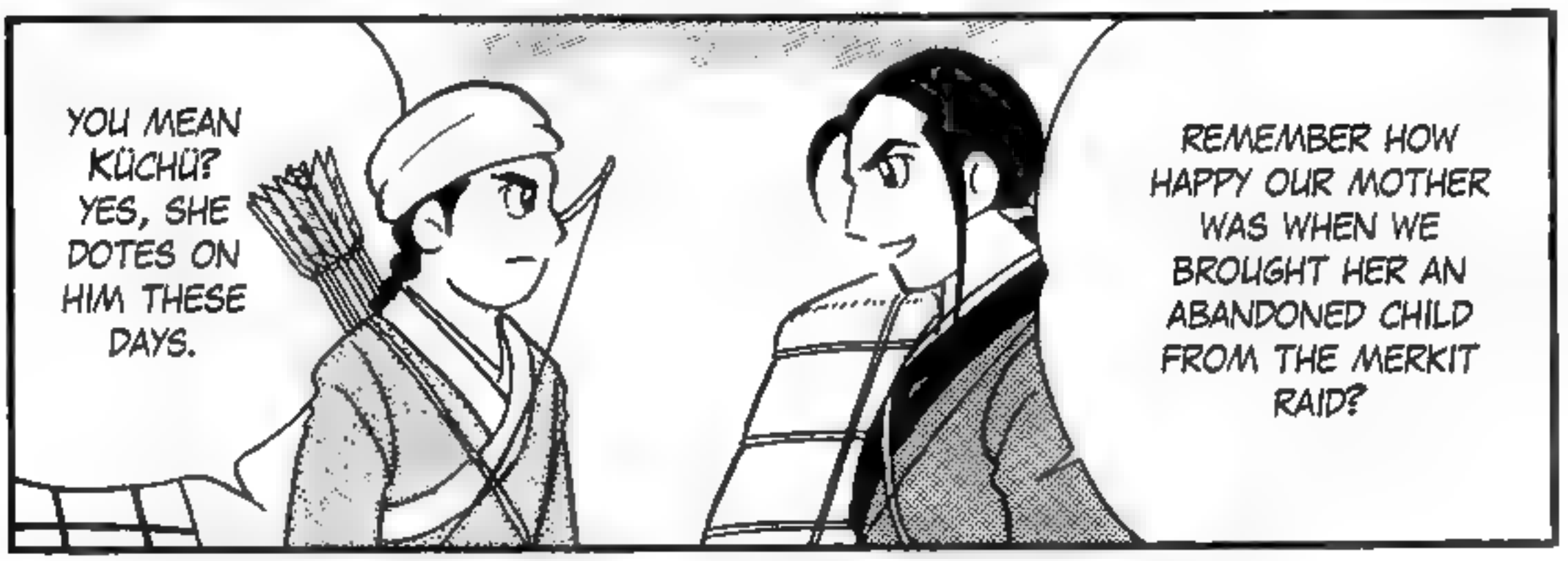



I'M WATCHING OVER MY GER.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE ALONE?

YES?
KASAR.

ALONE? WELL AREN'T YOU A GOOD LITTLE BOY.


TAKE THIS BOY TO OUR MOTHER.


YOU MEAN KÜCHÜ? YES, SHE DOTES ON HIM THESE DAYS.
REMEMBER HOW HAPPY OUR MOTHER WAS WHEN WE BROUGHT HER AN ABANDONED CHILD FROM THE MERKIT RAID?

AFTER THAT, SHE TOLD ME TO BRING ANY OTHER ABANDONED CHILDREN, NO MATTER WHICH TRIBE THEY'RE FROM. SHE PROMISES THAT SHE WILL RAISE THEM INTO FINE MEN.

RIGHT.

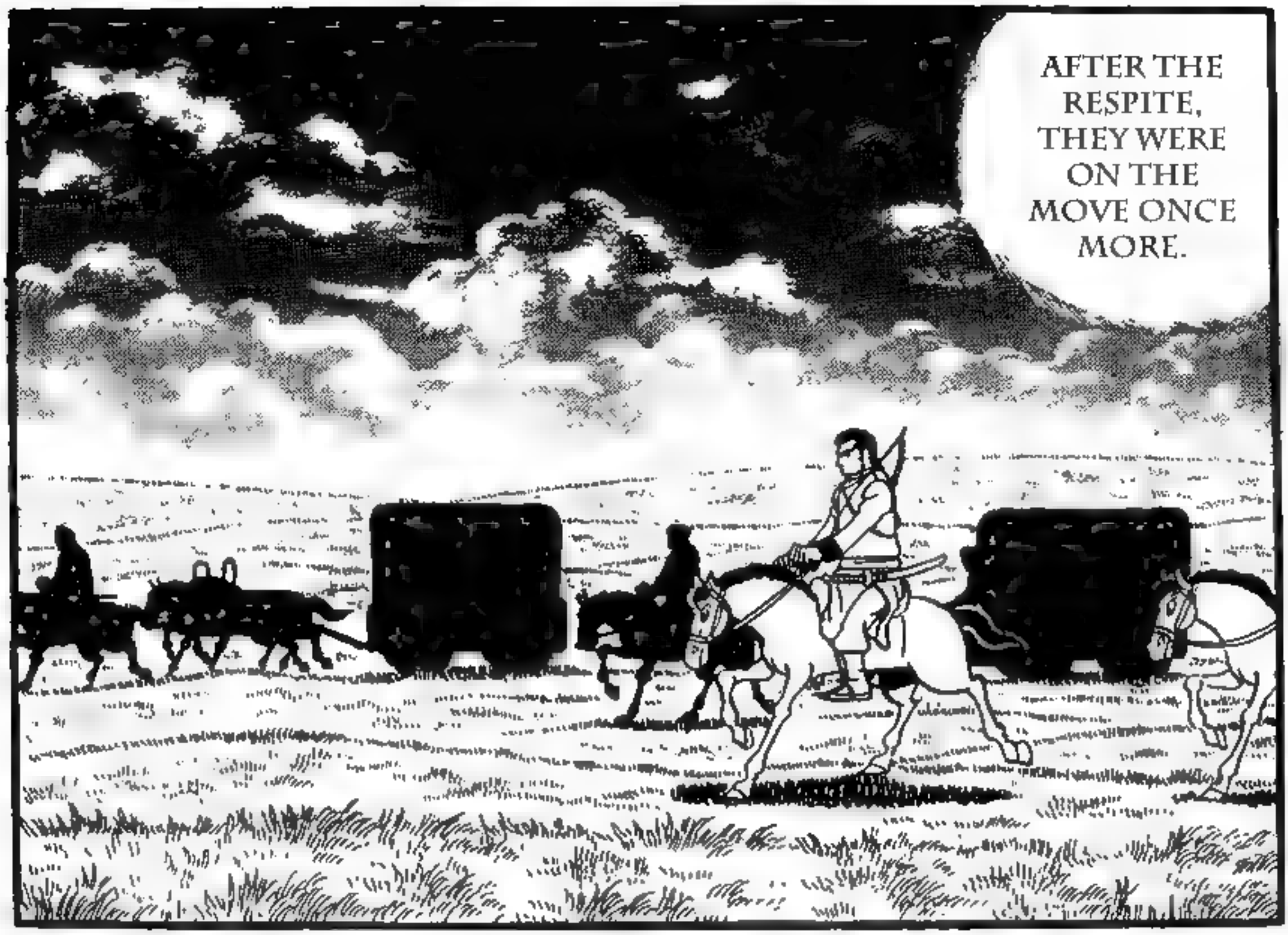
WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE HER BY BRINGING THIS CHILD TO HER.

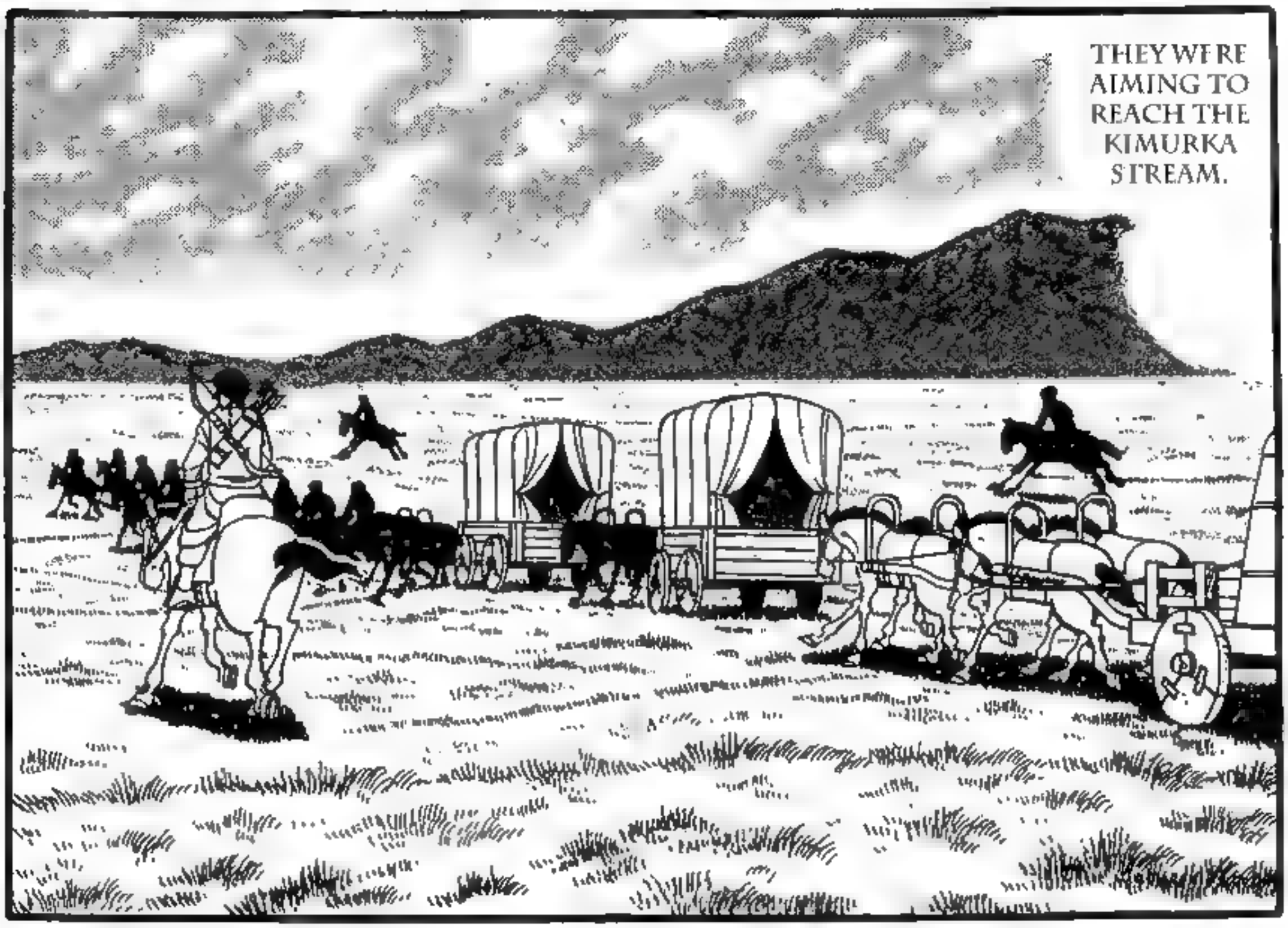
KÖKÖCHÜ.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME, LITTLE BOY?

OKAY.

WELL HELLO THERE, KÖKÖCHÜ. COME WITH ME. I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE WOMAN WHO'LL BE YOUR NEW MOTHER FROM TODAY.


AFTER THE RESPITE, THEY WERE ON THE MOVE ONCE MORE.


THEY WERE AIMING TO REACH THE KIMURKA STREAM.

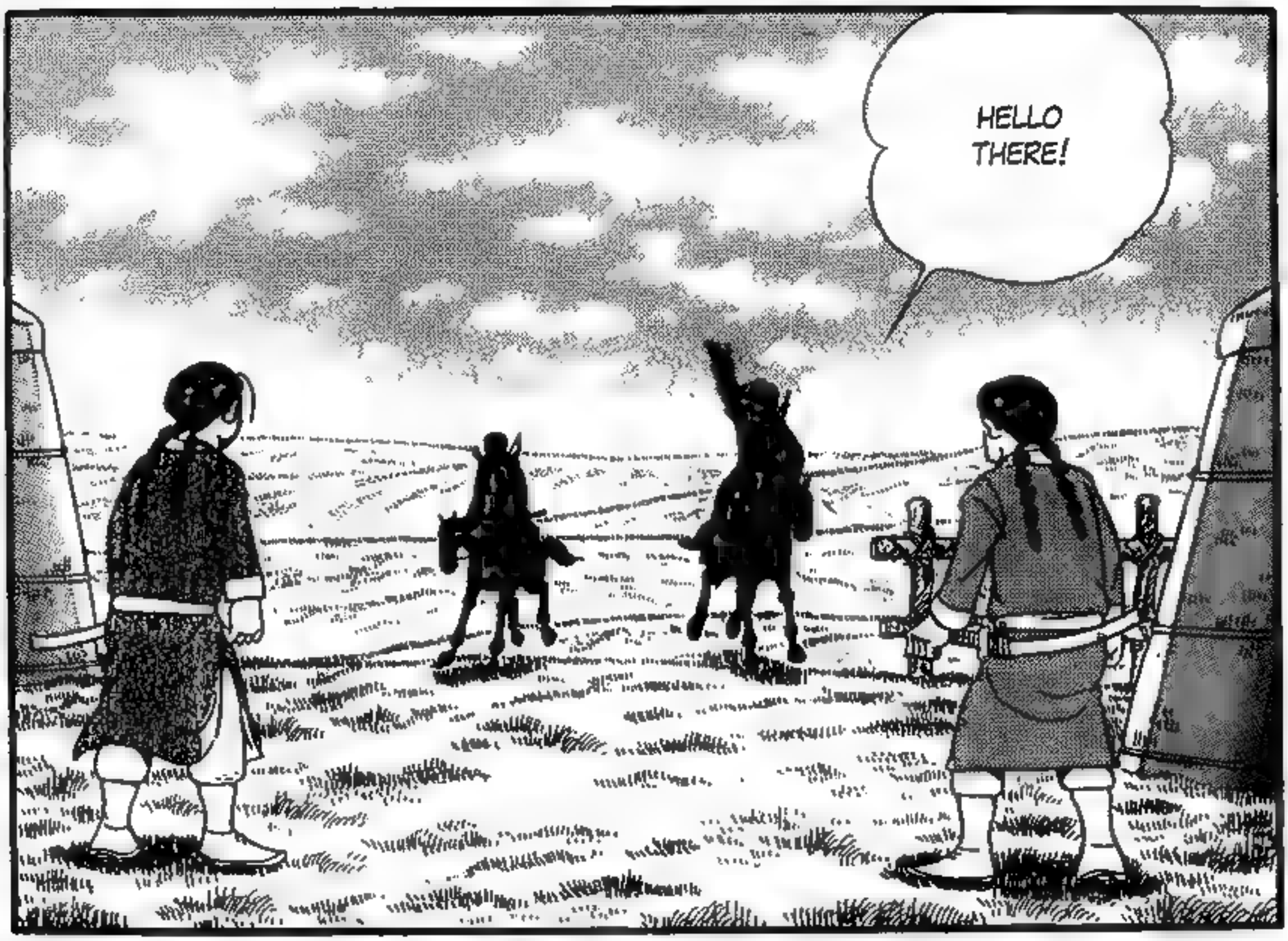
YES?

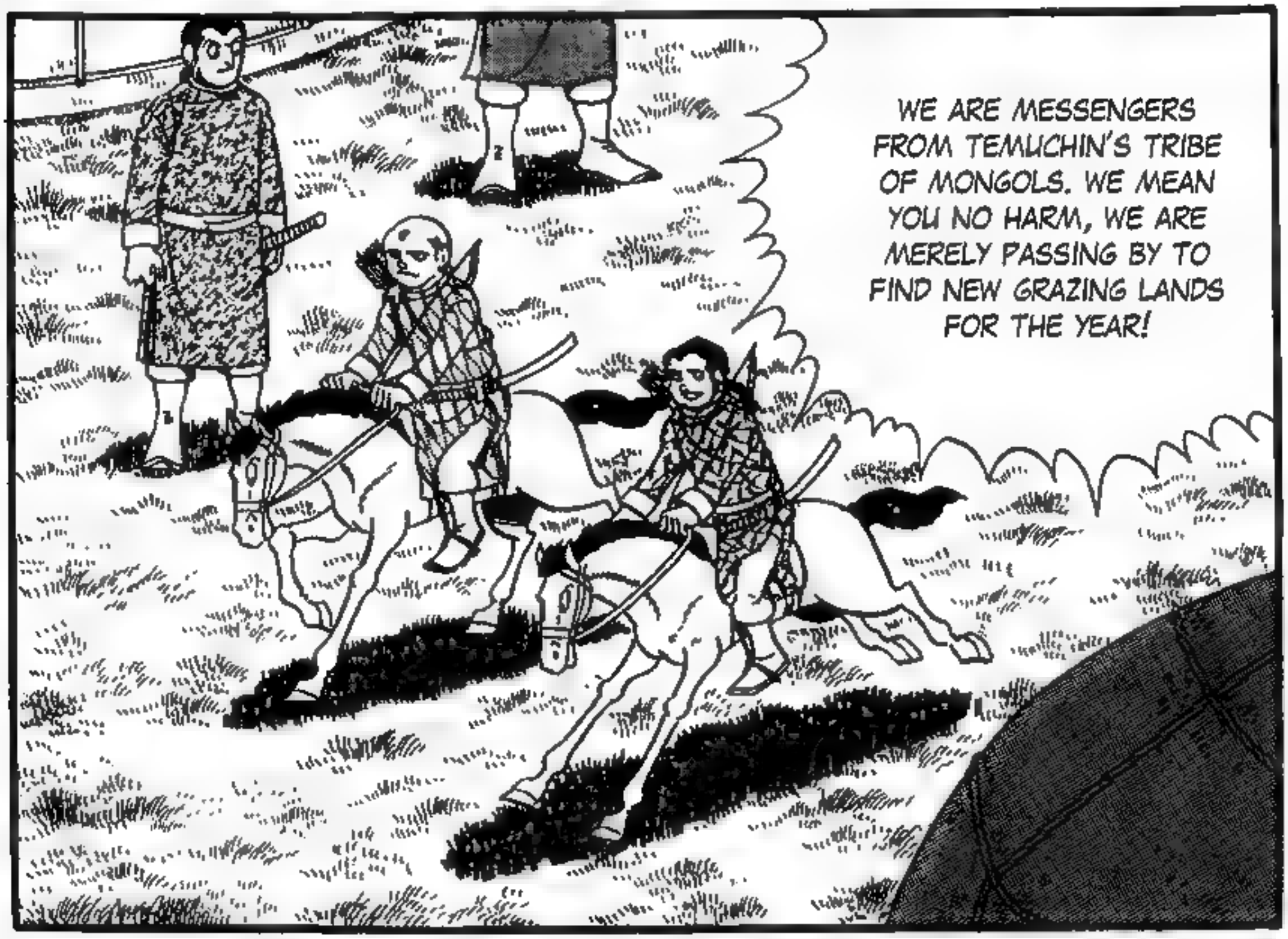
CHIMBAI, CHILA'UN.

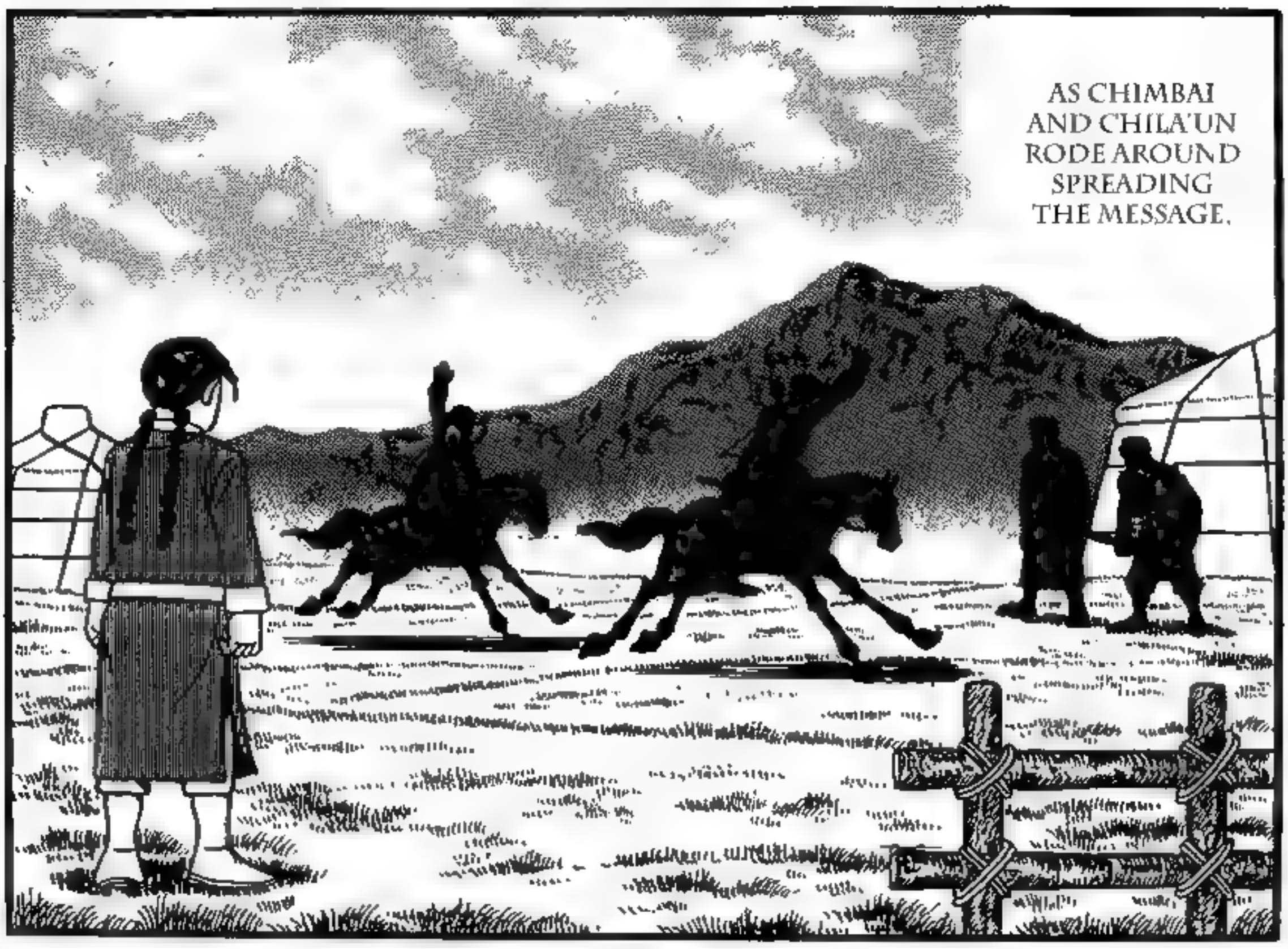
RIGHT AWAY.

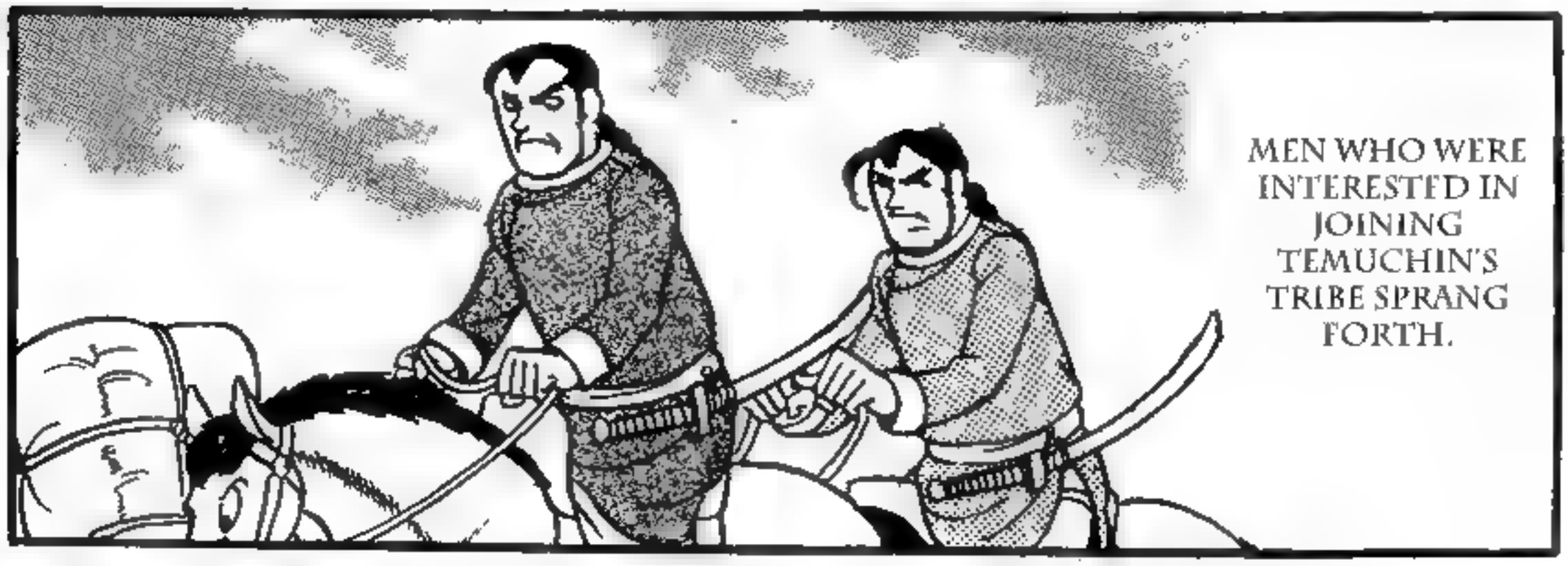
I WANT YOU TO GO AND TELL THEM THERE IS NO REASON TO BE AFRAID. WE ARE MERELY PASSING BY.

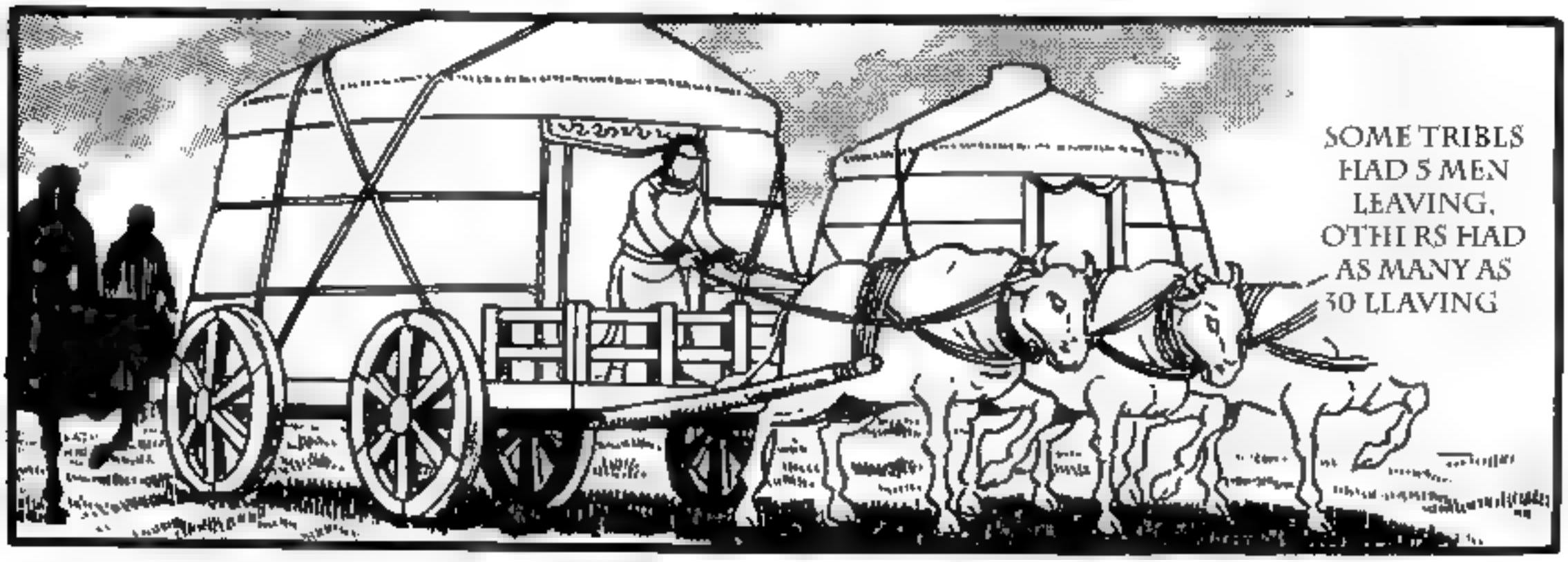
THERE SHOULD BE MANY SMALLER TRIBES SCATTERED OUT A LITTLE FURTHER OUT FROM HERE. THEY'LL BE SCARED AT SEEING US SUDDENLY ARRIVE HER.


HELLO THERE!


WE ARE MESSENGERS FROM TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE OF MONGOLS. WE MEAN YOU NO HARM, WE ARE MERELY PASSING BY TO FIND NEW GRAZING LANDS FOR THE YEAR!


AS CHIMBAI AND CHILA'UN RODE AROUND SPREADING THE MESSAGE.


MEN WHO WERE INTERESTED IN JOINING TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE SPRANG FORTH.


SOME TRIBLS HAD 5 MEN LEAVING, OTHI RS HAD AS MANY AS 30 LLAVING

IT SEEMS YOUR NAME IS NOW KNOWN ACROSS THE STEPPE, TEMUCHIN.

YES, THIS IS QUITE A LOT.

MEN FROM ALL SORTS OF TRIBES HAVE COME TO JOIN US, BROTHER.

YES, I CAN FEEL THE BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CARE OF THEM GROWING HEAVIER.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN YOUR EXPLOITS OF JOINING HANDS WITH TOGHRUL KHAN AND JAMUKA TO VANQUISH THE MERKITS THAT HAVE MADE LESSER TRIBES BELIEVE THAT GATHERING UNDER YOUR BANNER WILL BRING THEM SAFETY.

AT LAST, THEY ARRIVED AT THE KIMURKA STREAM.

YES, AND THEY'LL PROVIDE GOOD HUNTING GROUNDS AS WELL.

THE MOUNTAINS HERE ARE SHAPED LIKE WAVES. THEY'LL PROVIDE A GOOD SHELTER IF JAMUKA WERE TO ATTACK.

WHILE CAMPING HERE FOR ONE MONTH,

ALRIGHT! WE WILL STAY HERE FOR AROUND ONE MONTH! SET UP THE GERS!

TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE WOULD LOOK AROUND FOR EVEN RICHER LANDS TO MIGRATE TO, A PLACE THAT COULD SUPPORT THEIR INCREASED NUMBER.

DURING THIS TIME, MORE PEOPLE CONTINUED TO TRACK DOWN TEMUCHIN'S TRIBE TO JOIN

AND JELME'S YOUNGER BROTHERS CHA'URQAN AND SUBODAI WHO LEFT THE URIANGHAI

AMONG THEM INCLUDED BO'ORCHU'S YOUNGER BROTHER ÖGÖLEN-CHERBI WHO LEFT HIS ARULAT TRIBE,

A SHAMAN NAMED KORCHI ALSO CAME FROM JAMUKA'S JADARAT TRIBE, ACCOMPANIED BY 50 PEOPLE.

KORCHI, WHY DID YOU LEAVE JAMUKA TO JOIN ME?

I HAVE NEVER LEFT THE JADARATS BEFORE NOW, FOR THERE WAS NO REASON TO.

A HEAVENLY OMEN, OF COURSE.

AND WHAT WAS THIS SUDDEN REASON THAT CHANGED YOUR MIND THEN?

YES, INDEED.

OTHER MEN HAVE COME SAYING THAT MY TRIBE IS A PLACE WHERE THE ABLE ARE REWARDED JUSTLY. BUT WITH YOU, IT IS A HEAVENLY OMEN THAT HAS DRAWN YOU?

ME? THE SUPREME LORD OF THE STEPPE?

IT WAS A CLEAR SIGN FROM THE HEAVENS THAT YOU WILL BECOME THE SUPREME LORD OF THE STEPPE. THUS, I HAD TO FOLLOW HEAVEN'S WILL.

IF THE OMEN PROVES TRUE, THEN I WILL YOU MAKE YOU A CHIEF OF 10,000 HOUSEHOLDS.

HAHAHA! NOW THAT'S AN INTERESTING OMEN!

YOU'RE DISSATISFIED?

OH, I HAVE NO INTEREST IN RULING OVER MERE MEN.

WELL, WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT?

OF COURSE! I'VE GONE ALL THE WAY TO PREDICT YOUR FUTURE, SO YOU MUST DO MORE THAN GIVE ME SOME MEN TO BOSS AROUND.

YOU DESIRE 30 MORE WIVES AT YOUR AGE?

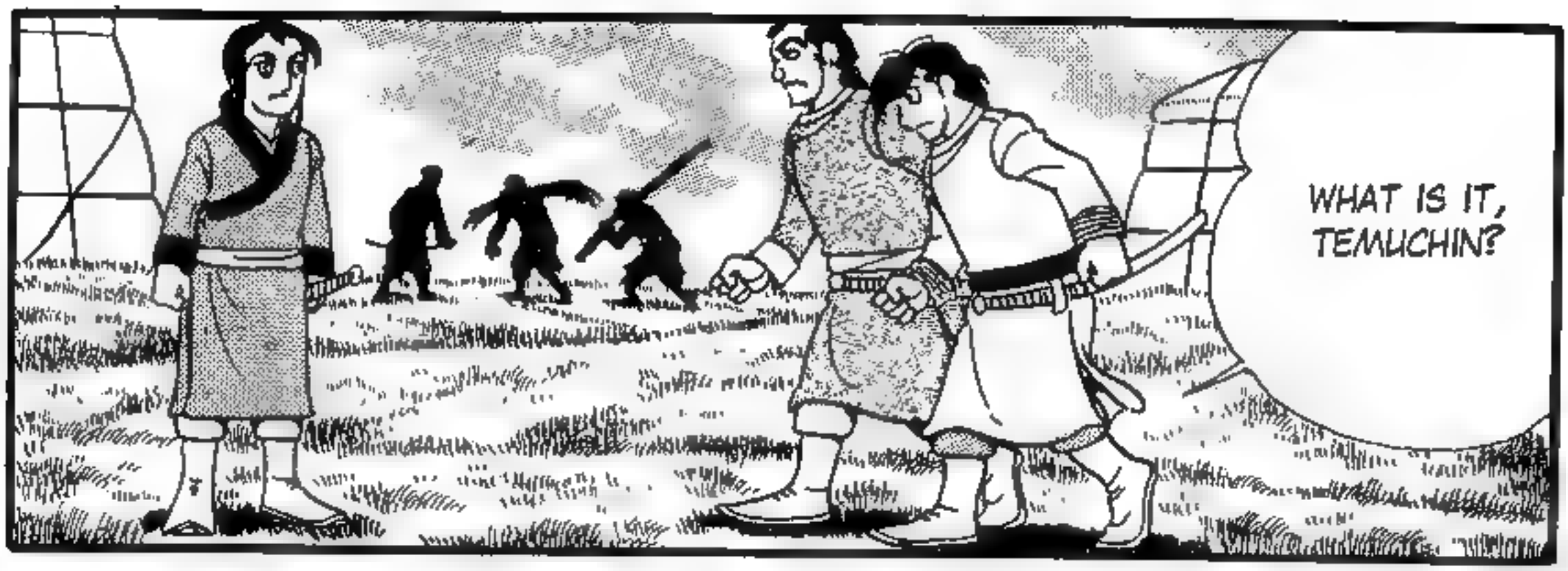
LET'S SEE... I'D LIKE TO PICK OUT 30 BEAUTIFUL MAIDENS TO BE MY WIVES.

VERY WELL. I'LL UPHOLD OUR PROMISE IF THE OMEN COMES TRUE.

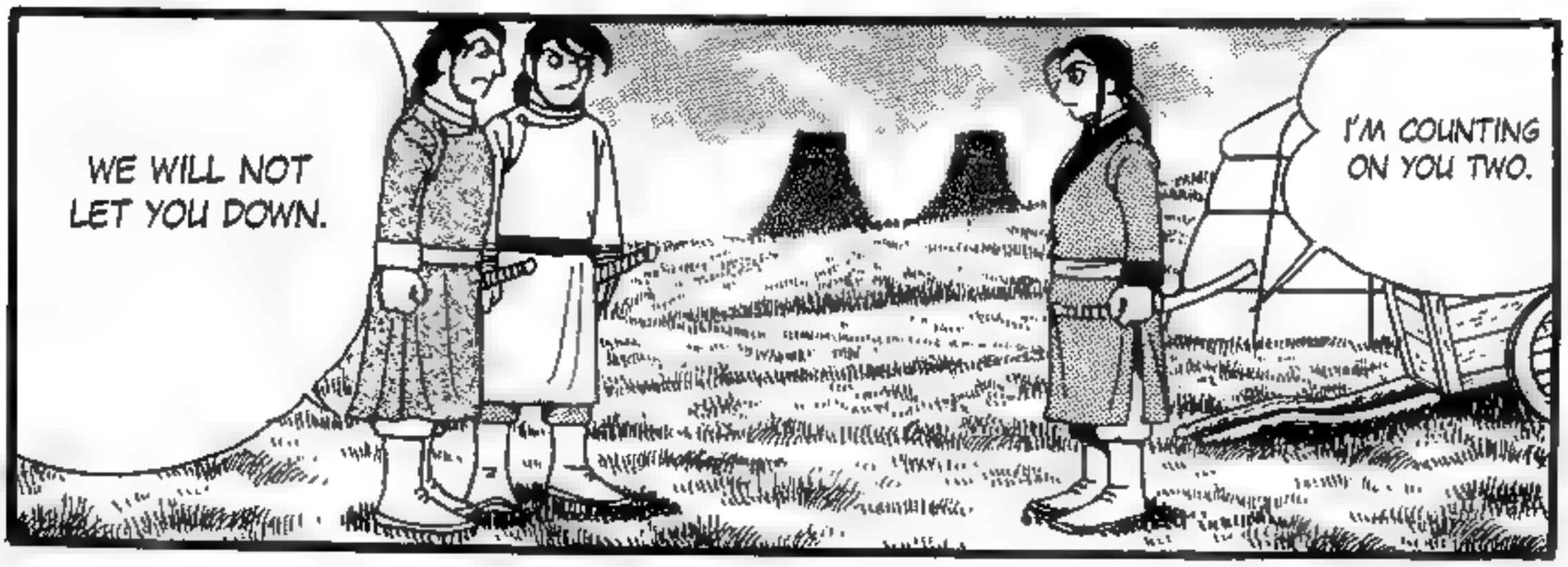
HAHAHA! LUST IS INSEPARABLE UNTIL DEATH.

THEN I WILL WAIT EAGERLY.

BO'ORCHU! JELME!

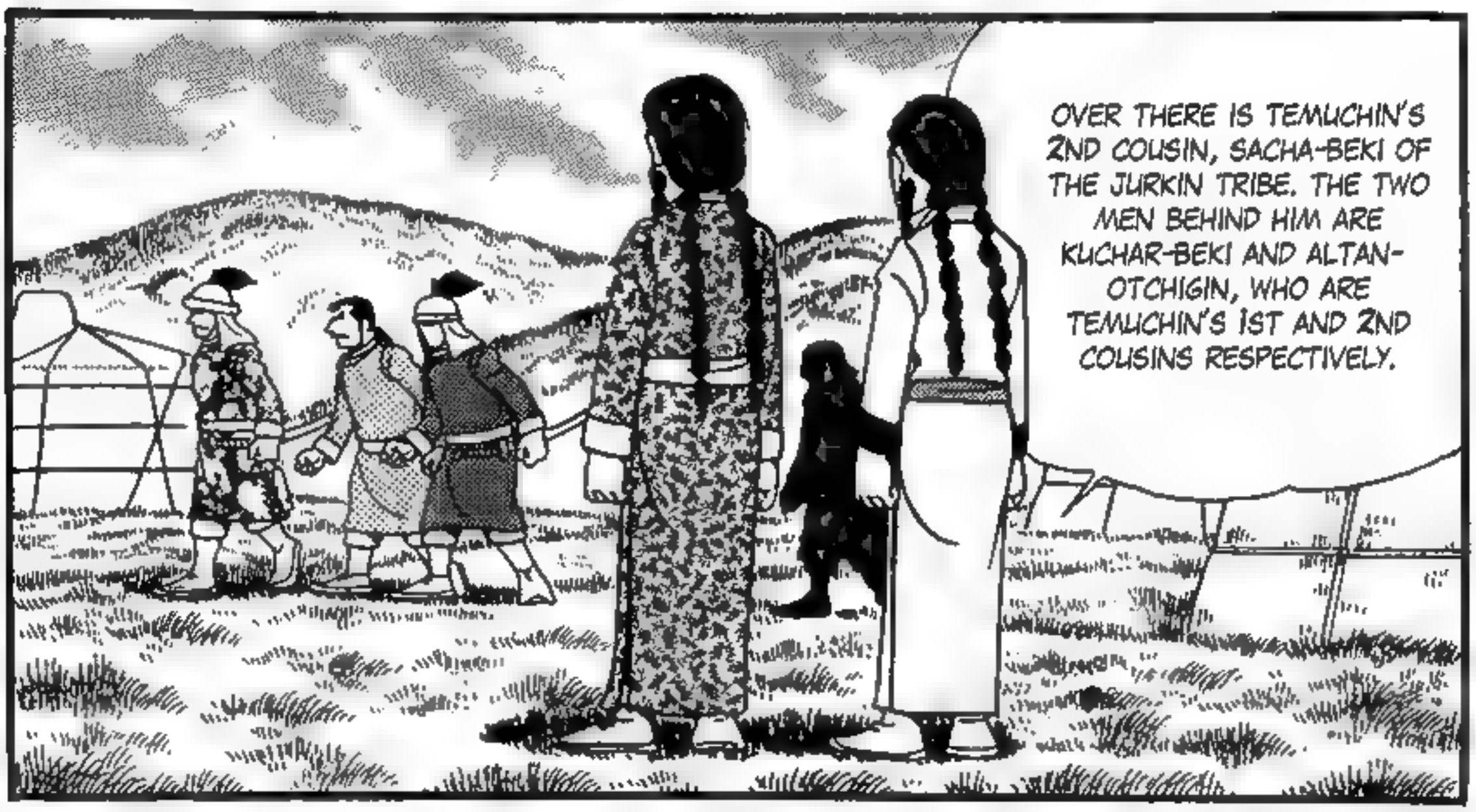


WITH THIS MANY PEOPLE, MY EYES CANNOT POSSIBLY WATCH OVER THEM ALL. THEREFORE, I'D LIKE TO HAND DOWN SOME OF MY AUTHORITY TO YOU TWO.



BY THE TIME OF THE MOVE ONE MONTH AFTER.

TEMUCHIN'S CAMPS HAD SWELLED TO AN ENORMOUS SIZE AS SMALLER TRIBES FROM EVEN FURTHER AWAY CAME TO JOIN. SOME NUMBERED 300, OTHERS AT 500.

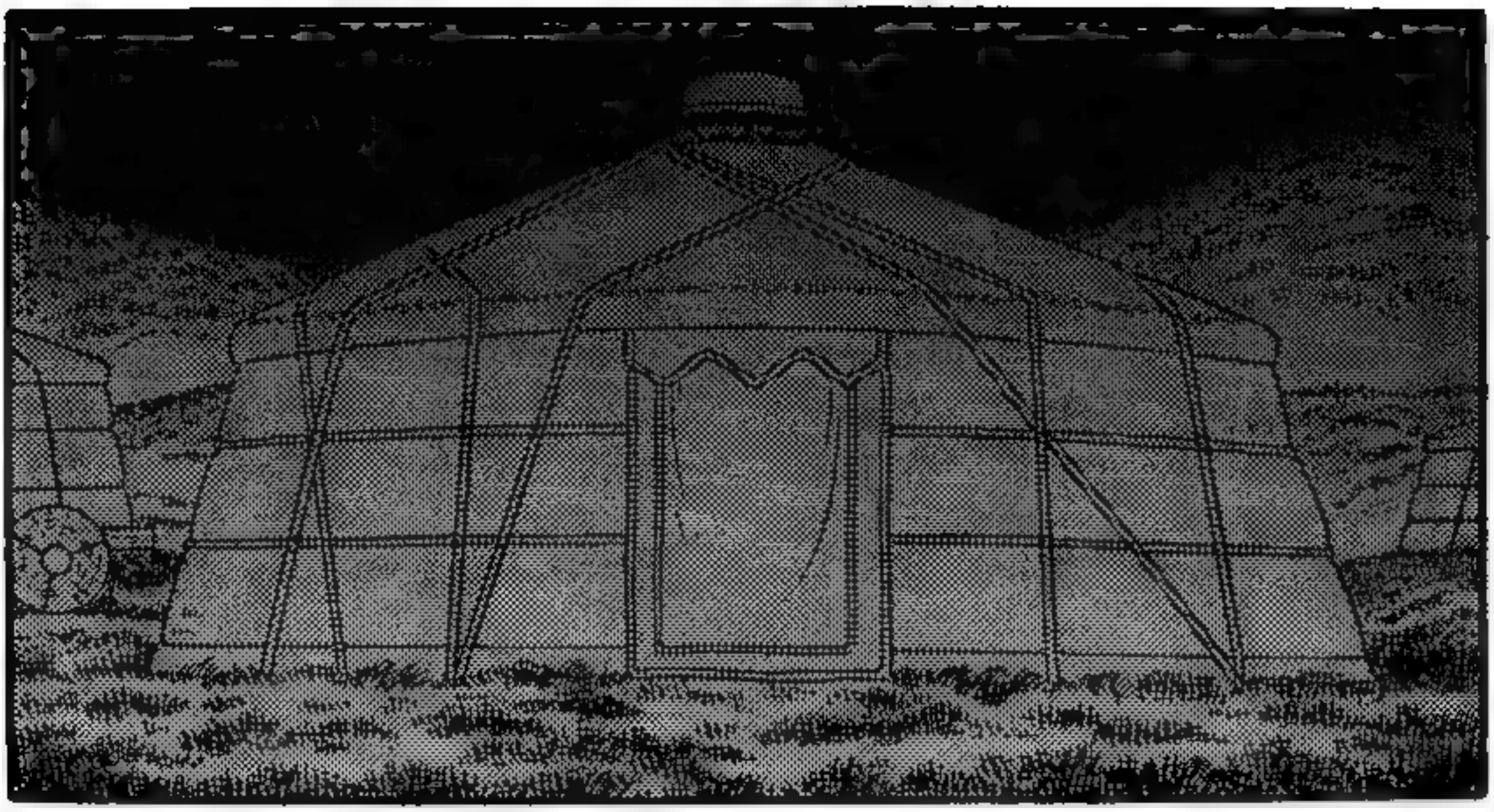

OVER THERE IS TEMUCHIN'S 2ND COUSIN, SACHA-BEKI OF THE JURKIN TRIBE. THE TWO MEN BEHIND HIM ARE KUCHAR-BEKI AND ALTAN-OTCHIGIN, WHO ARE TEMUCHIN'S 1ST AND 2ND COUSINS RESPECTIVELY.

*OTCHIGIN HONORIFIC DENOTING YOUNGEST BROTHER
BEKI HONORIFIC RESERVED FOR NOBLES

BUT THE MONGOLS OF NOW ARE MUCH BIGGER THAN THE MONGOLS IN MY HUSBAND'S TIME...

THEY MUST HAVE ALL COME, WANTING TO ENLARGE THEIR POWER AND BECOME THE NEXT MONGOL KHAN.

I DON'T KNOW. ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN THOUGH, I SUPPOSE...
MOTHER, ALL THESE HEADS OF OTHER MONGOL BRANCHES ARE OLDER THAN TEMUCHIN... DO YOU THINK THEY'LL SEIZE CONTROL OF OUR TRIBE?



YES, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THAT TOO.
TEMUCHIN, THE KIRMUKA STREAM IS TOO CRAMPED A SPACE FOR AN EXTENDED TRIBE AS LARGE AS OURS. WE MUST MOVE LEST OUR LIVESTOCK STARVE.

I'D LIKE TO SUGGEST THE SENGGUR STREAM.

BUT WHERE SHOULD WE MOVE?

I SEE.

THE LANDS THERE ARE ARE BIG ENOUGH TO SUPPORT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

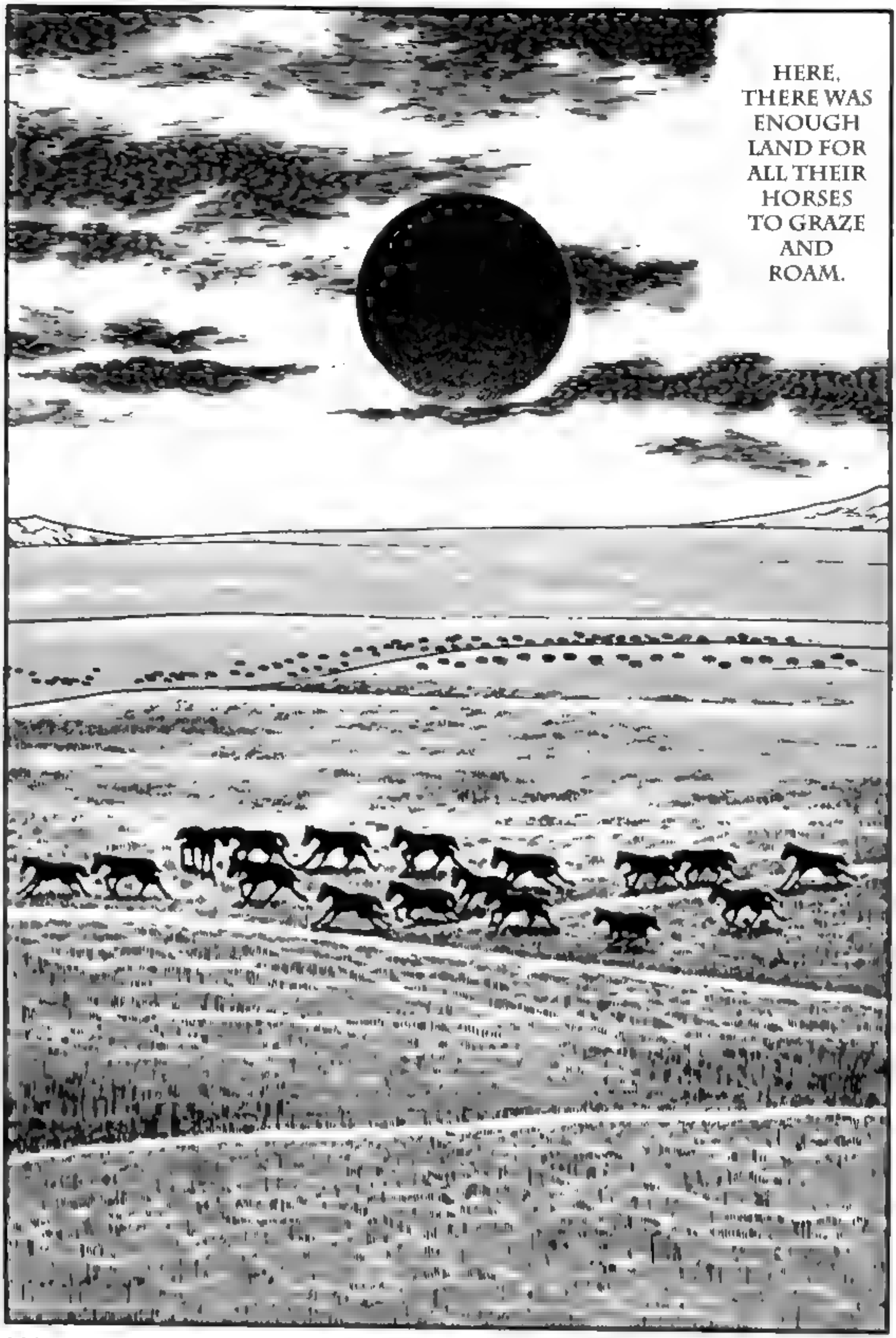
UNDERSTOOD.

GIVE THE WORD TO THE OTHERS THAT WE WILL BEGIN THE MOVE TO SENGGUR STREAM THEN.

TEMUCHIN'S TRIBES, WHICH HAD NOW SWELLED TO AROUND 10,000 PEOPLE, TRAVELLED IN SEARCH FOR BIGGER GRAZING LANDS AT SENGGUR STREAM.

Khan

THE TRIBES
HAD SAFELY
REACHED
SENGGUR
STREAM.


HERE, THERE WAS ENOUGH LAND FOR ALL THEIR HORSES TO GRAZE AND ROAM.

YES. A KHAN MUST BE CHOSEN.

WITH THIS MANY TRIBES GATHERED HERE IN ONE PLACE, WE NEED A KHAN.

WHO IS MOST SUITABLE TO BE THE NEW MONGOL KHAN THEN?

WELL...

HMM...

MN...

SHAMANS HELD GREAT SWAY AMONG THE DEEPLY SPIRITUAL MONGOLS OF THIS TIME.

BUT UNTIL NOW, YOU HAVE ALL BEEN LEADERS OF MINOR TRIBES ONLY THREE OR FIVE HUNDRED LARGE. CAN ANY OF YOU REALLY LEAD A CONFEDERATE WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS PEOPLE?

IN TERMS OF LINEAGE, EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU IS SUITABLE, FOR THE BLOOD OF KABUL KHAN FLOWS THROUGH YOU.

.....

.....

.....

TEMUCHIN, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS TREATED BY TOGHRUL KHAN ALMOST LIKE A SON, AND IS AN ANDA TO JAMUKA.

WHEN TEMUCHIN SPLIT FROM JAMUKA'S CAMP, HE ALREADY HAD 3000 FOLLOWERS. HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE COMMANDED SUCH NUMBERS?

A SIGN FROM THE HEAVENS!?

YOU KNOW, I WAS A MEMBER OF JAMUKA'S JADARAT TRIBE UNTIL RECENTLY. I LEFT AFTER THE HEAVENS SHOWED ME AN OMEN.

YES, THE HEAVENS TOLD ME THAT TEMUCHIN WOULD BECOME THE SUPREME LORD OF THE STEPPE. THAT IS WHY I LEFT JAMUKA'S POWERFUL TRIBE, EVEN THOUGH I HAD NO DISCOMFORTS WHILE LIVING WITH HIM.

THERE IS NOTHING TO HESITATE OVER. TEMUCHIN IS OUR ONLY CHOICE AS KHAN.

PERHAPS IT'S TRUE. AFTER ALL, TEMUCHIN ONLY HAD 10 FAMILY MEMBERS TO COUNT ON AFTER YISUGEI'S DEATH.

SO YOU SAW AN OMEN FROM THE HEAVENS, DID YOU NOW...

YES, RISING UP FROM SUCH DIRE CIRCUMSTANCES IS NOT EASY ON THE STEPPE...

BUT LOOK AT THE GATHERING NOW. SURELY HE MUST HAVE RECEIVED SOME OF THE HEAVEN'S BLESSING.

AGREED.

FINE, LET US NOMINATE TEMUCHIN TO BE THE NEXT KHAN.

YES, WE'VE DECIDED AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION.

WHAT!? YOU'D LIKE FOR ME TO BECOME THE NEXT MONGOL KHAN!?

H-HOLD ON A MOMENT. YOU'RE ALL FAR OLDER THAN I. SURELY, IT IS NOT PROPER TO PLACE ME AS YOUR HEAD.

BUT UNCLE...

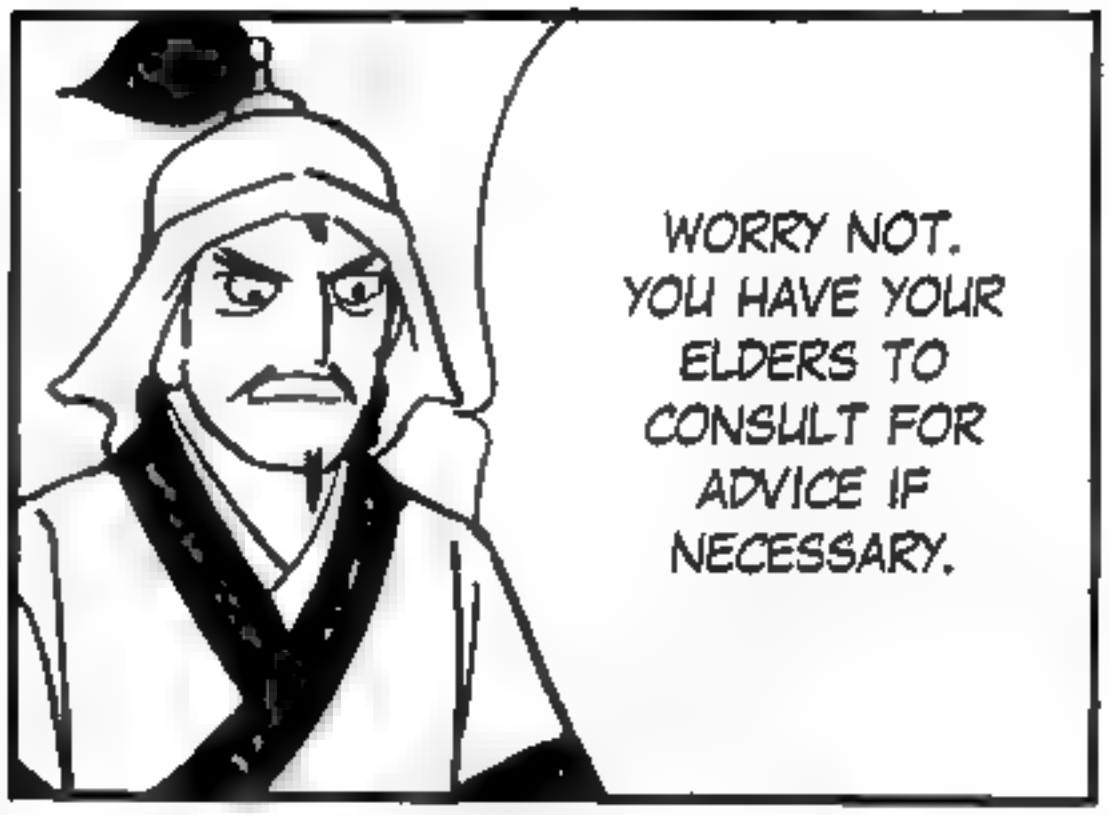
AGE MATTERS LESS TO A KHAN THAN HIS LEADERSHIP.

YES, THEY ALL TRUST YOUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE FOR THEM.

YOUR RISE FROM POVERTY TO FORGE AN ALLIANCE WITH TOGHRUL KHAN AND JAMUKA PROVES YOU HAVE THE TALENT. JUST LOOK AT HOW MANY FOLLOWERS YOU HAVE NOW.

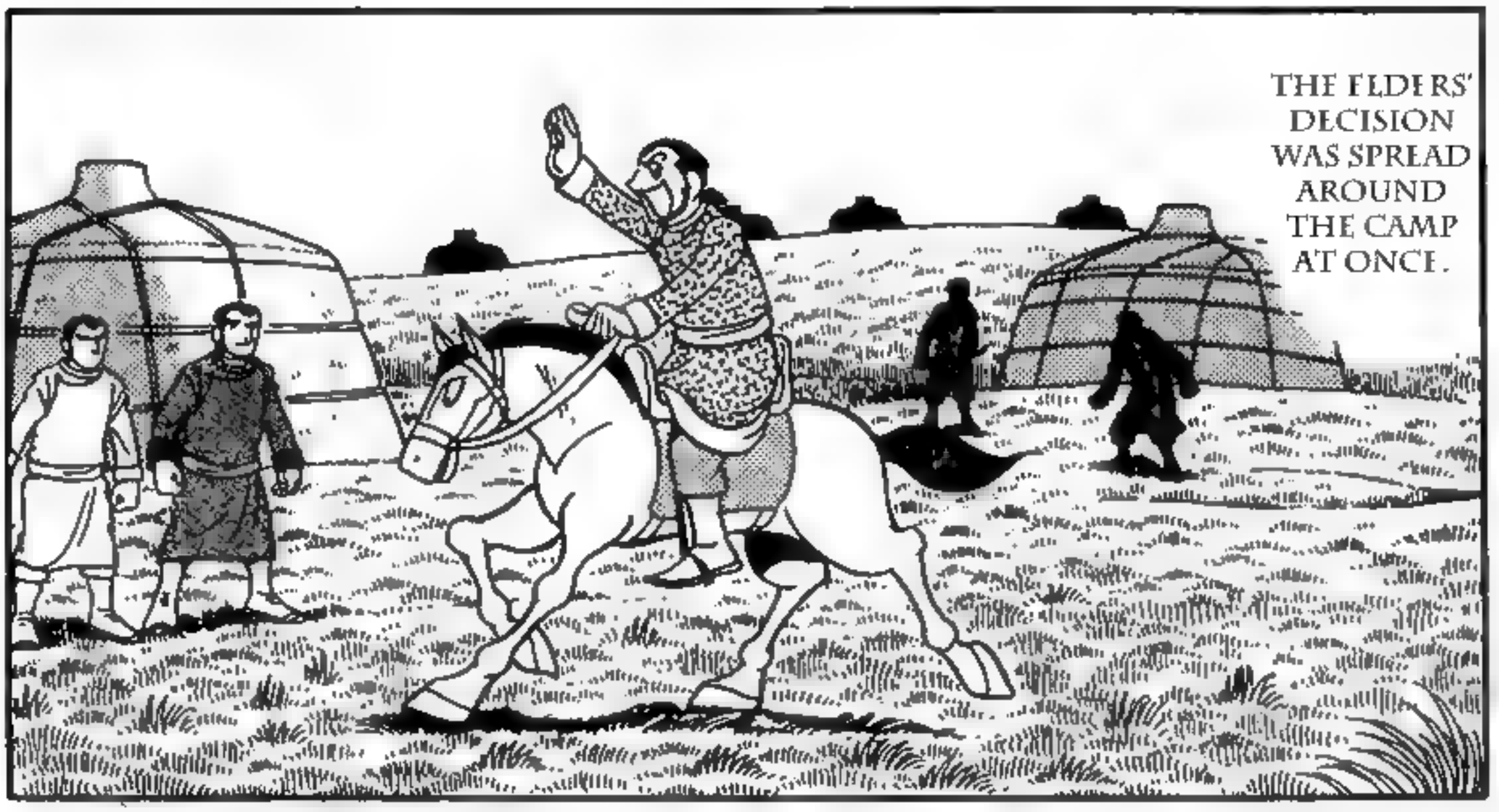
SO PLEASE, BECOME THE NEXT KHAN TO LEAD US MONGOLS.

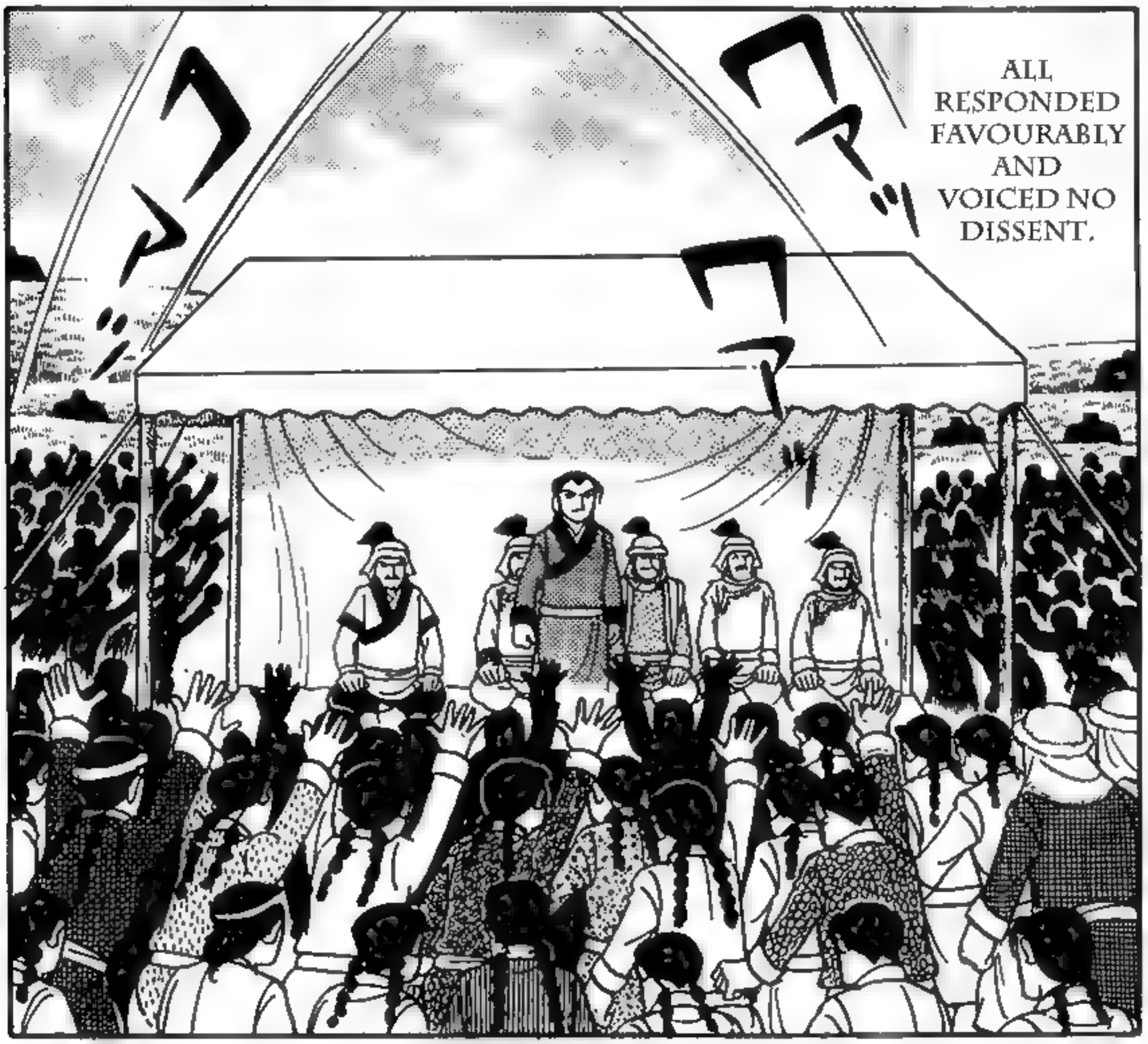
HOWEVER, TEMUCHIN LACKED THE CONFIDENCE TO STEP UP TO SUCH A LARGE ROLE AT THIS TIME.


WORRY NOT. YOU HAVE YOUR ELDERS TO CONSULT FOR ADVICE IF NECESSARY.

I... I'M AFRAID I DON'T QUITE HAVE THE CONFIDENCE...

SPLENDID.
FINE. IF YOU INSIST, I WILL ACCEPT THE TITLE OF KHAN.


THE ELDERS' DECISION WAS SPREAD AROUND THE CAMP AT ONCE.


ALL RESPONDED FAVOURABLY AND VOICED NO DISSENT.

AS SUCH, I HEREBY MAKE THIS PROMISE TO YOU ALL...

I HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS YOUR NEW KHAN.

QUIET!

I WILL TRY MY UTMOST TO PROTECT YOU AND ALL YOUR FAMILY FROM THE DANGERS OF VIOLENCE AND POVERTY!

WHAT'S WRONG, MOTHER?

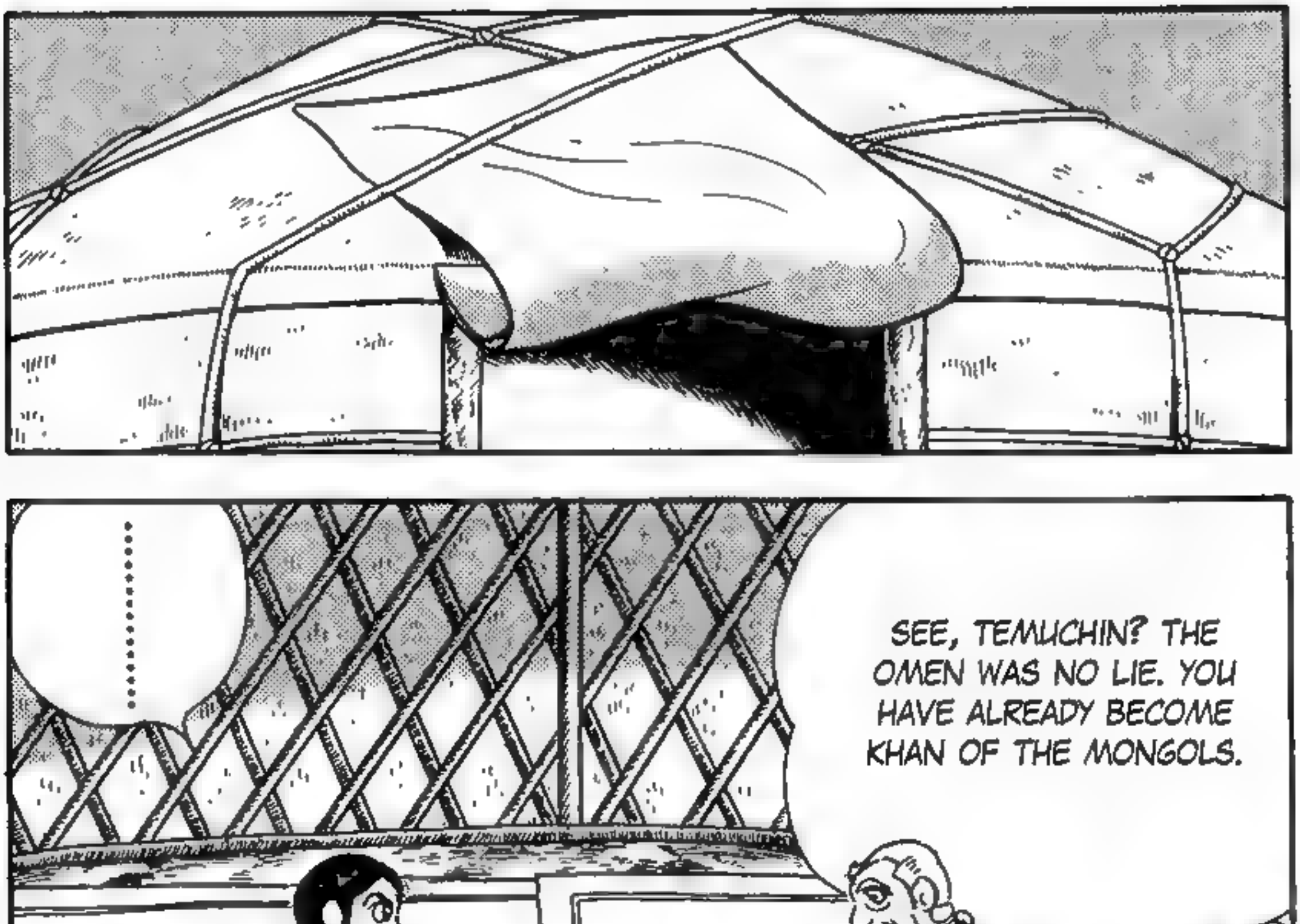
"!

ABOUT WHAT?

I MUST CONFESS I'M DEEPLY WORRIED...

AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, CHILDREN WHO COME INTO THIS WORLD HOLDING BLOOD CLOTS ARE OMENS OF GREAT BLOOD-SHED. AS A MOTHER, I AM WORRIED WHAT MY SON MAY BE FORCED TO DO AS PART OF HIS NEW POSITION AS KHAN...

WHEN I BORE TEMUCHIN, HE CLUTCHED A BLOOD CLOT IN HIS FIST.


SEE, TEMUCHIN? THE OMEN WAS NO LIE. YOU HAVE ALREADY BECOME KHAN OF THE MONGOLS.

I AM NOT ONE TO BREAK MY WORD.

IT WILL NOT BE LONG BEFORE YOU WILL BE THE SUPREME LORD OF THE ENTIRE STEPPE. DO NOT FORGET OUR PROMISE AT THAT TIME.

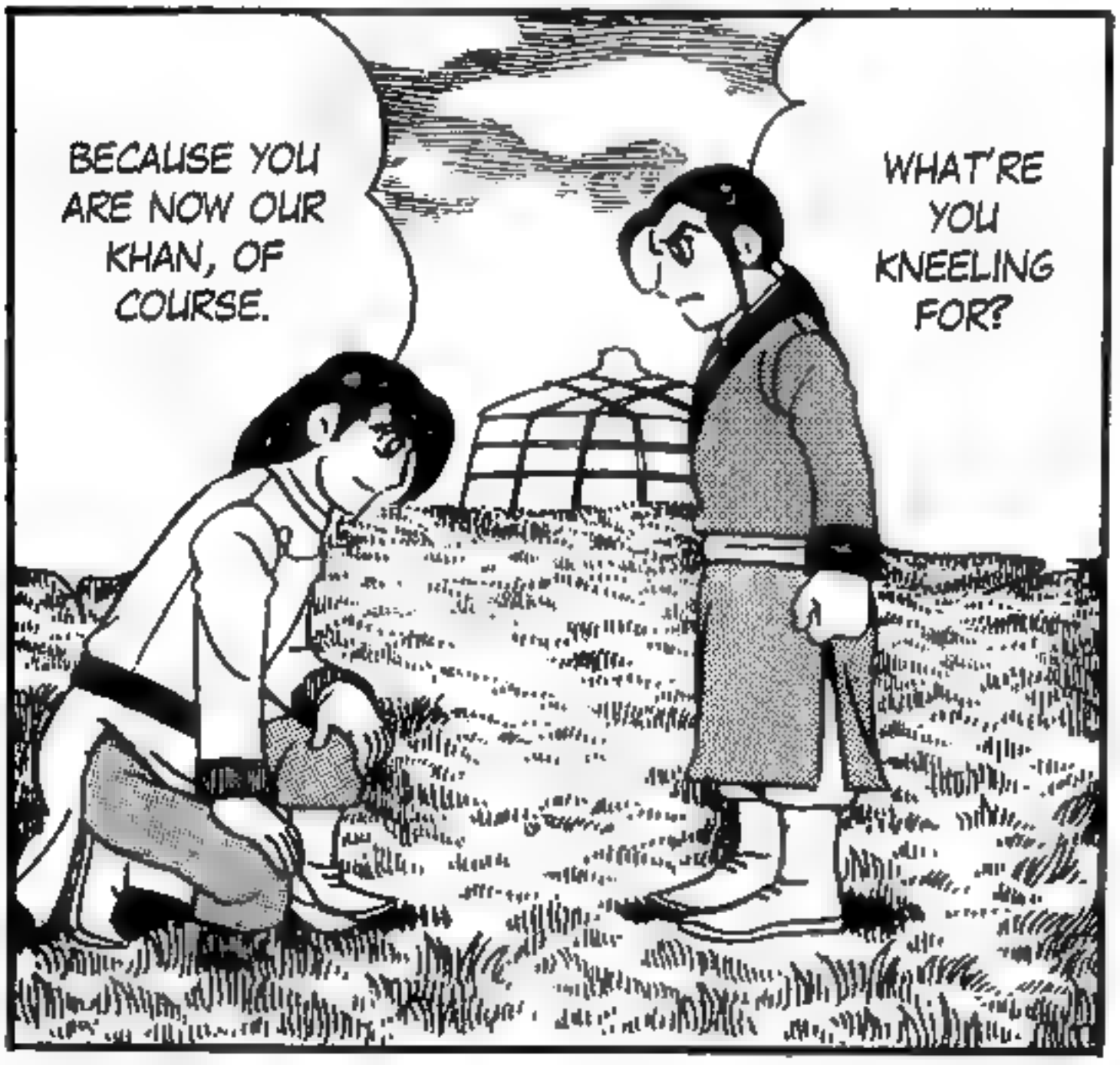
AH, THANK YOU. PHYSICAL LABOUR DOES TAKE QUITE A TOLL ON MY BODY THESE DAYS.

IN FACT, I WILL PARTLY UPHOLD MY PROMISE EARLY. FROM TODAY, YOU ARE EXCUSED FROM ALL PHYSICAL WORK. INSTEAD, I ONLY ASK YOU TO HELP MY MOTHER TO RAISE THE ORPHANS KÜCHÜ AND KÖKÖCHÜ.

I SHOULD ALERT BOTH TOGHRUL KHAN AND JAMUKA OF MY NEW STATUS AS KHAN...

HAHAHA, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE I COMMAND 10,000 HOUSEHOLDS AND AM ACCOMPANIED BY 30 BEAUTIFUL WIVES.

BO'ORCHU!


BECAUSE YOU ARE NOW OUR KHAN, OF COURSE.
WHAT'RE YOU KNEELING FOR?

YES?

YES, AND TO BE HONEST, I WOULD LIKE TO TREAT YOU THE SAME AS ALWAYS.

OH, DON'T BE SO STIFF. YOU ARE MY CLOSE FRIEND.

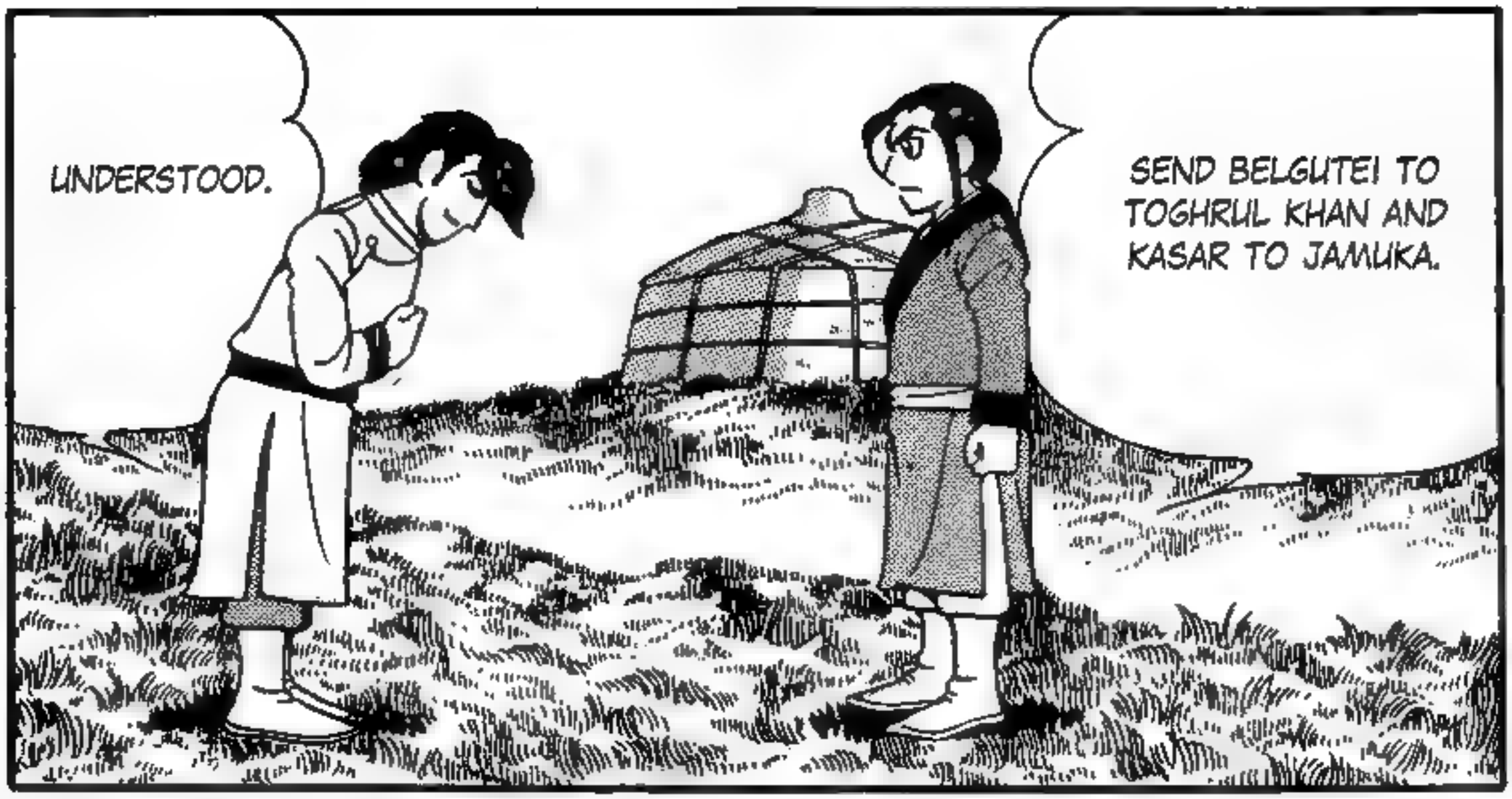
BUT TO TREAT YOU SO CASUALLY WOULD ONLY LESSEN YOUR AUTHORITY AS KHAN IN THE EYES OF OTHERS. DESPITE MY FORMALITIES, DO NOT FORGET THAT I THINK OF YOU AS MY DEAREST FRIEND IN MY HEART, TEMUCHIN.

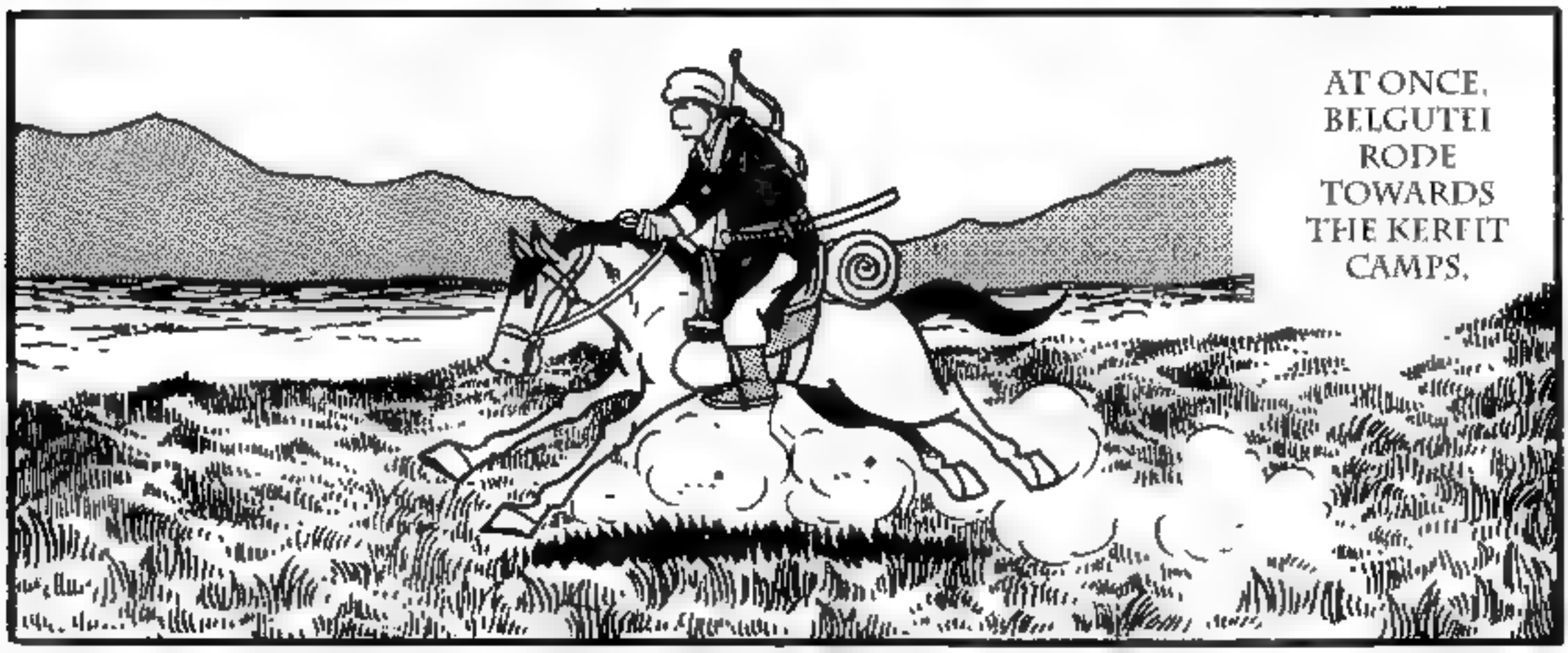
WHAT IS IT YOU WISH ME TO DO, KHAN?

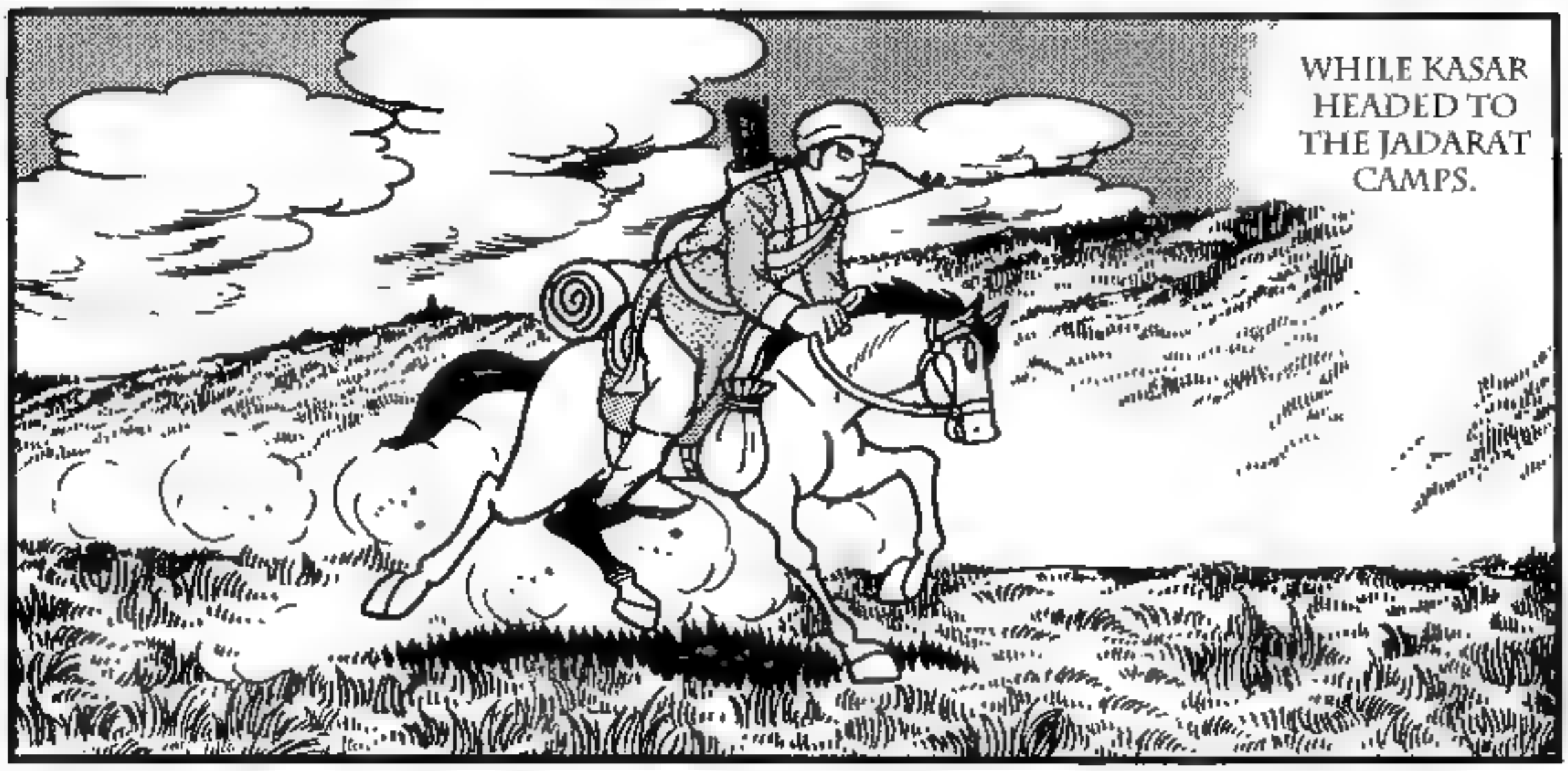
I SEE... I'M SORRY THAT THINGS HAVE TO BE THIS WAY.

DO YOU HAVE ANYONE IN MIND FOR THE MESSENGERS?

I MUST PROCLAIM MY NEW STATUS AS THE MONGOL KHAN TO TOGHRUL KHAN AND TAMUKA. SEE TO IT THAT MESSENGERS ARE SENT OUT TO BOTH OF THEM.


UNDERSTOOD.
SEND BELGUTEI TO TOGHRUL KHAN AND KASAR TO JAMUKA.


AT ONCE, BELGUTEI RODE TOWARDS THE KEREIT CAMPS.

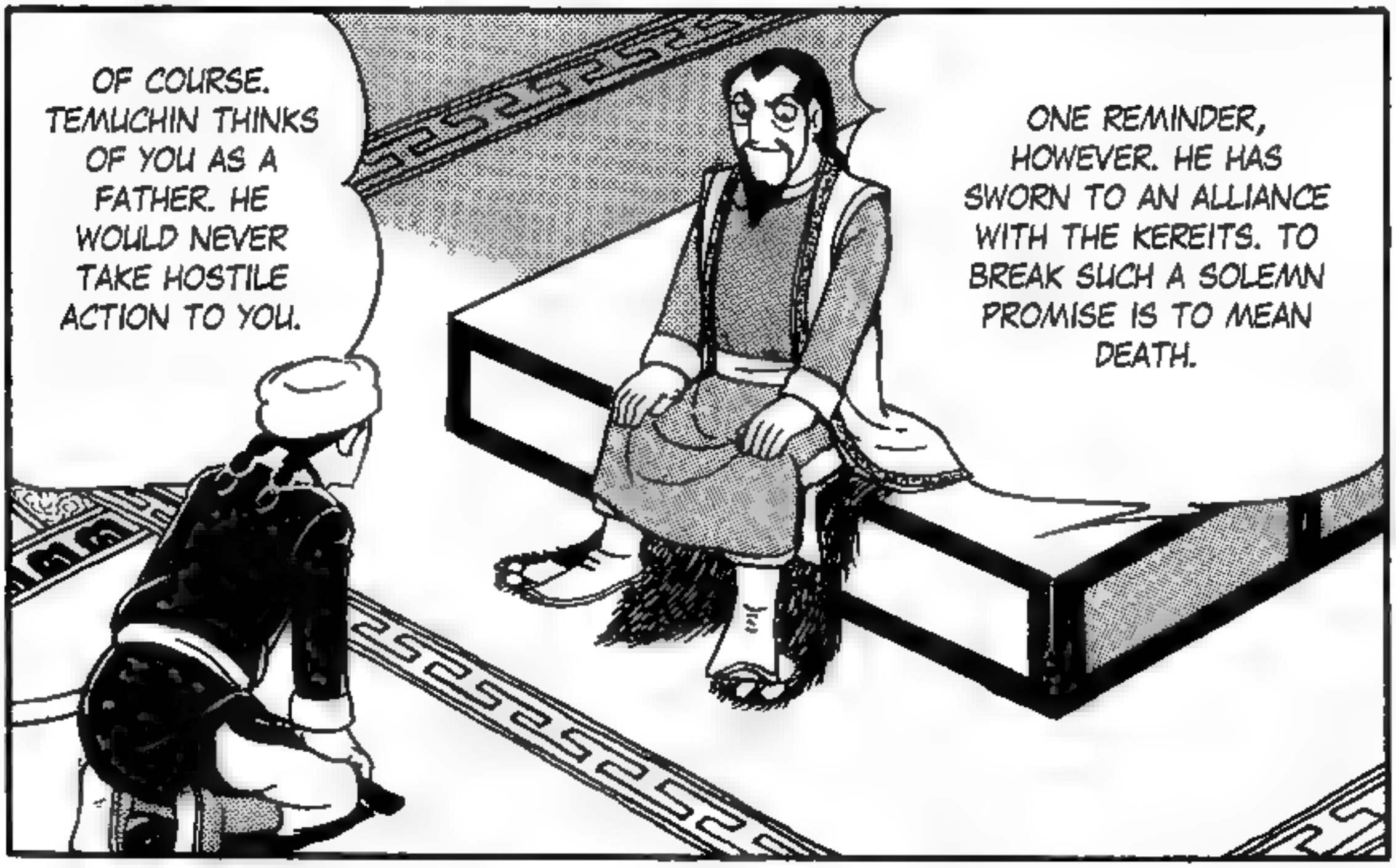

WHILE KASAR HEADED TO THE JADARAT CAMPS.

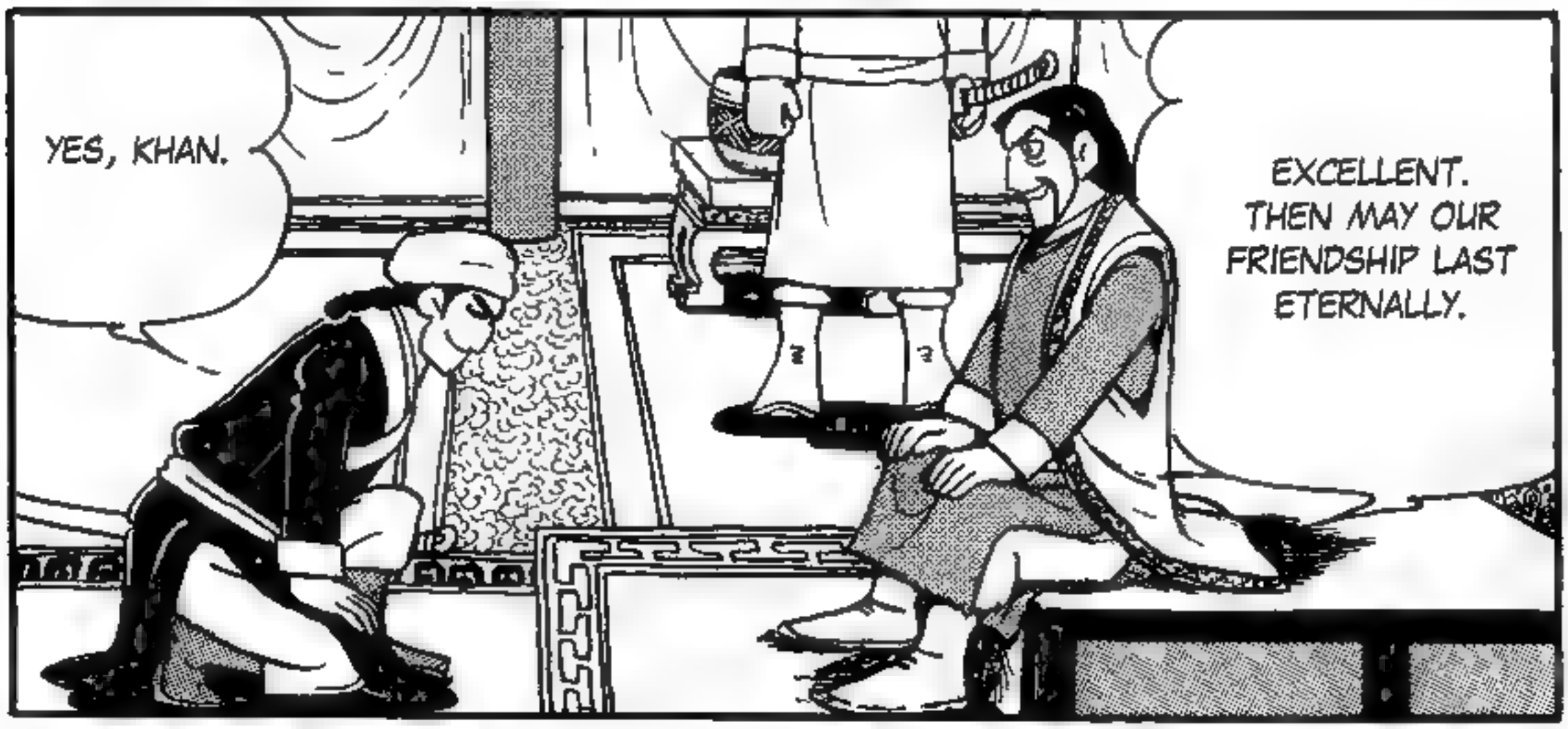
YES, AND HE SAYS IS IS ALL THANKS TO YOUR PAST ASSISTANCE.

TEMUCHIN HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS THE NEW MONGOL KHAN?

YES.

SPLENDID. IT IS TIME THAT THE MONGOLS HAD A NEW KHAN TO LEAD THEM. GIVE HIM MY BEST WISHES.


OF COURSE. TEMUCHIN THINKS OF YOU AS A FATHER. HE WOULD NEVER TAKE HOSTILE ACTION TO YOU.
ONE REMINDER, HOWEVER. HE HAS SWORN TO AN ALLIANCE WITH THE KEREITS. TO BREAK SUCH A SOLEMN PROMISE IS TO MEAN DEATH.


YES, KHAN.
EXCELLENT. THEN MAY OUR FRIENDSHIP LAST ETERNALLY.

YES, AND TEMUCHIN SENDS ME TO THANK YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF HIM IN THE PAST.

TEMUCHIN'S BEEN CHOSEN AS THE NEW MONGOL KHAN?

Y-YES, THAT'S TRUE.

IS THAT SO... I HEAR TEMUCHIN HAS MOVED HIS CAMPS QUITE FAR AWAY FROM MINE.

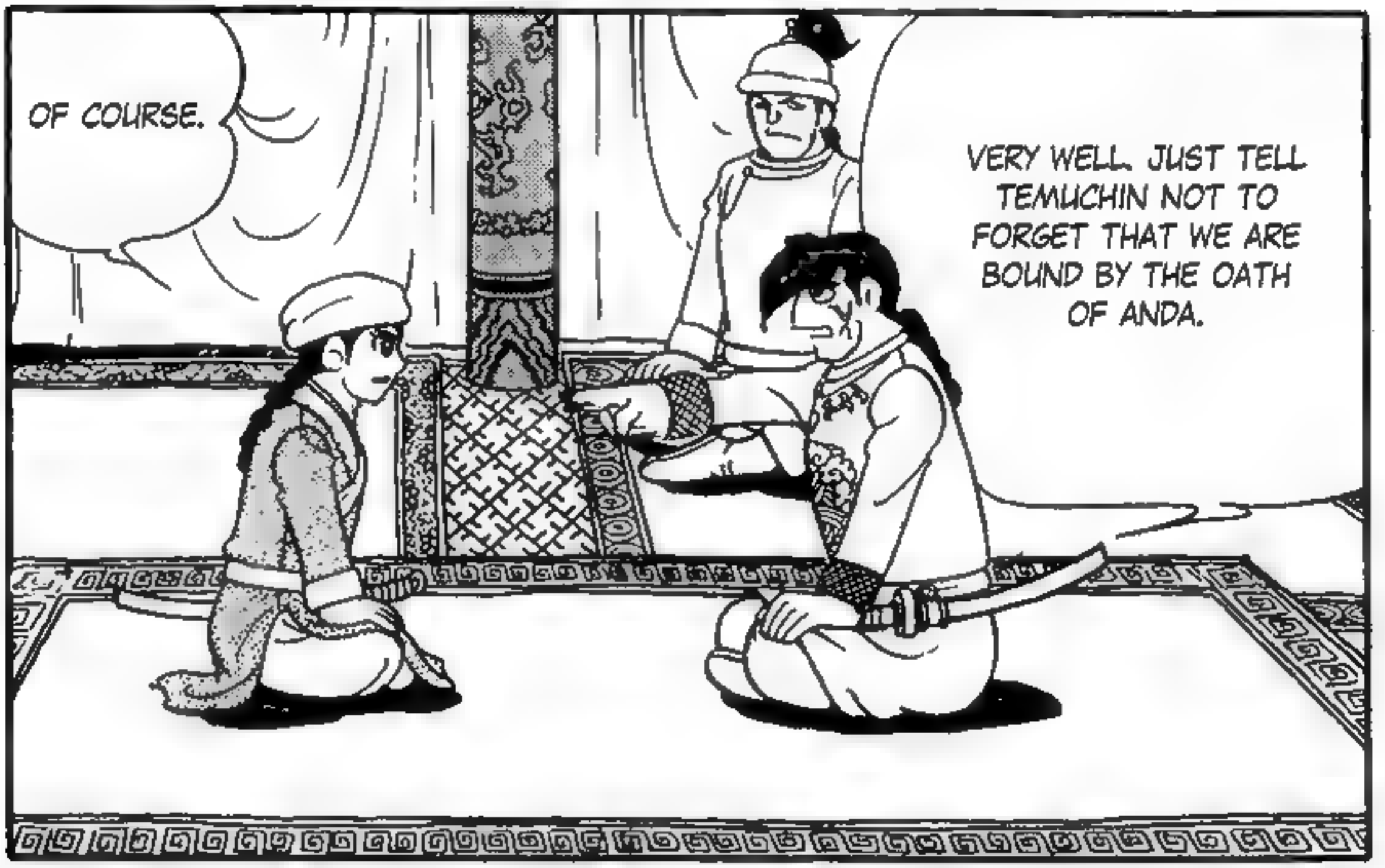
THE REASON FOR THAT WAS... HE DID NOT WISH TO INCONVENIENCE YOU FURTHER.

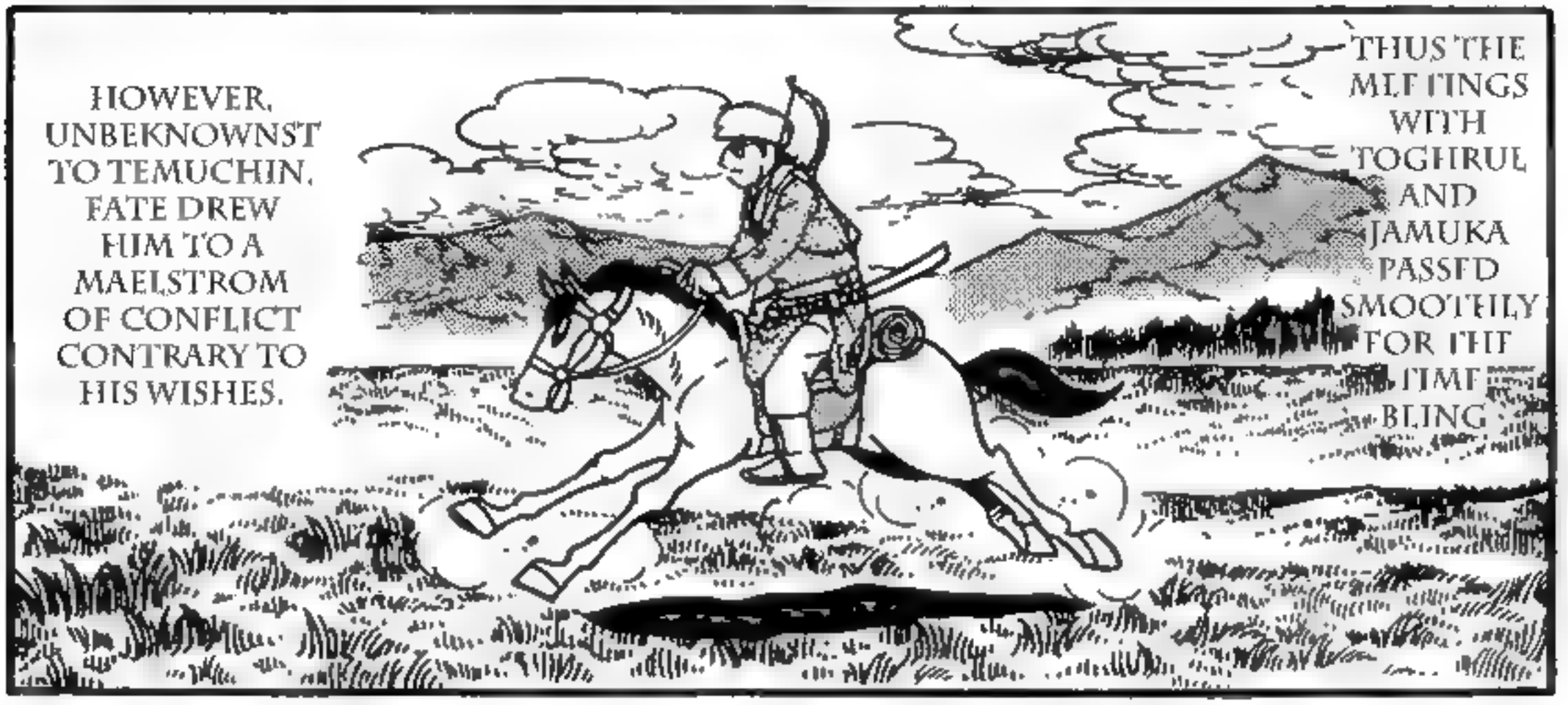
OH, AND ONE THING I STILL WONDER IS WHY TEMUCHIN DECIDED TO MOVE ABRUPTLY BEFORE THE HUNT I INVITED HIM TO?

THE JADARAT MAINLY HERD SHEEP AND LAMB WHILE WE HERD HORSES. THE HORSES FAVOUR HIGHER GROUNDS NEAR HILLS WHILE SHEEPS FAVOUR LOWER GROUNDS NEAR RIVERS. THUS TEMUCHIN DECIDED THAT SPLITTING FROM YOU WOULD BE BEST FOR YOUR TRIBE.

YES.

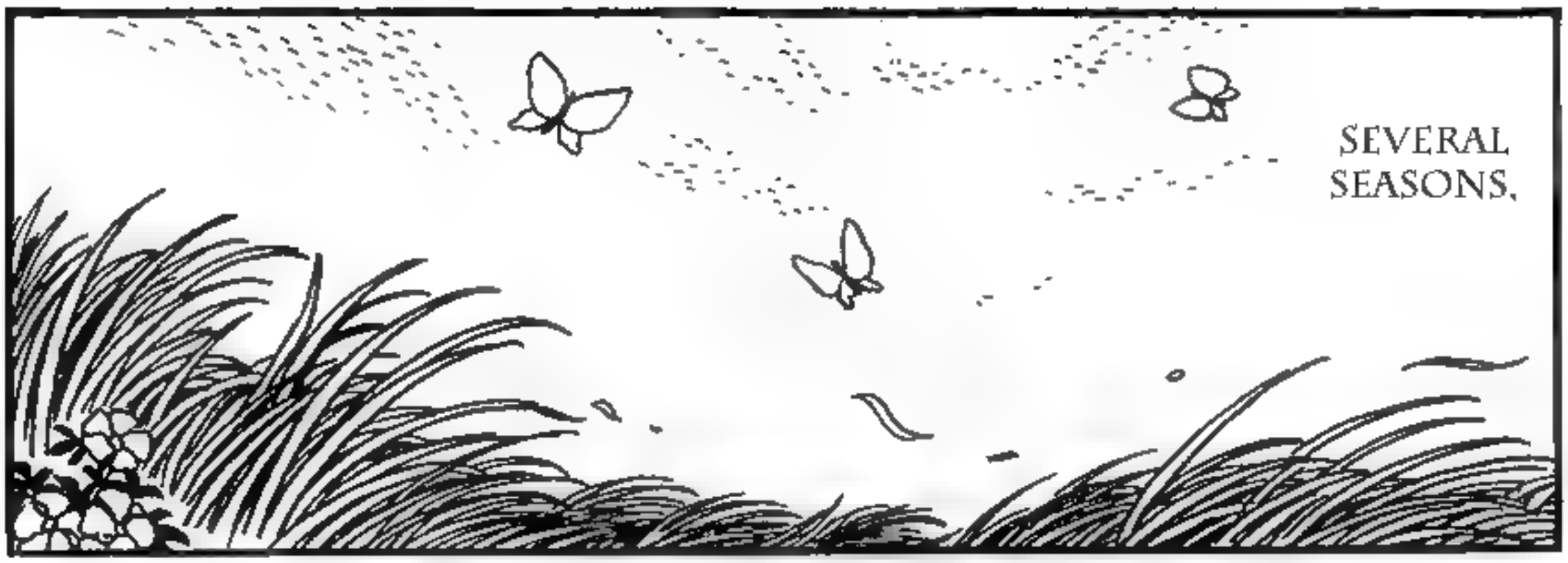
AH, SO HE WAS WORRIED FOR MY SITUATION, WAS HE NOW...


OF COURSE.
VERY WELL. JUST TELL TEMUCHIN NOT TO FORGET THAT WE ARE BOUND BY THE OATH OF ANDA.


HOWEVER, UNBEKNOWNST TO TEMUCHIN, FATE DREW HIM TO A MAELSTROM OF CONFLICT CONTRARY TO HIS WISHES.
THUS THE MEETINGS WITH TOGHRUL AND JAMUKA PASSED SMOOTHLY FOR THE TIME BEING

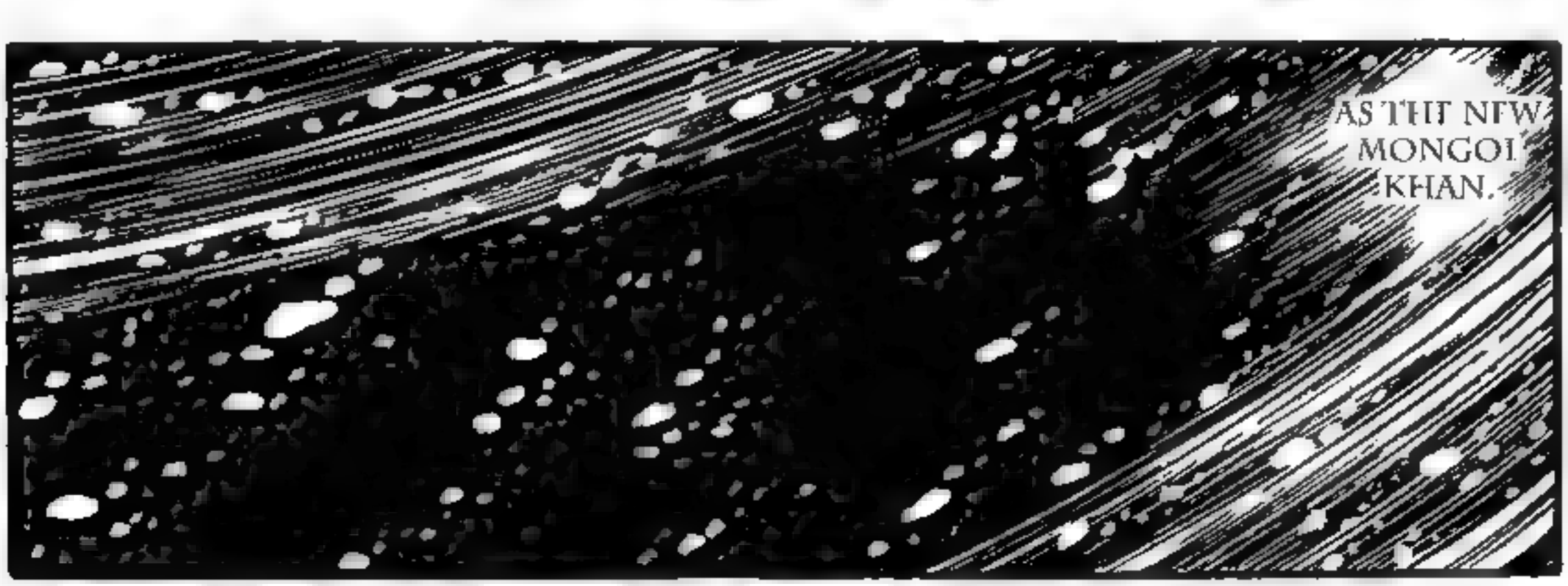
Battle of Dalan

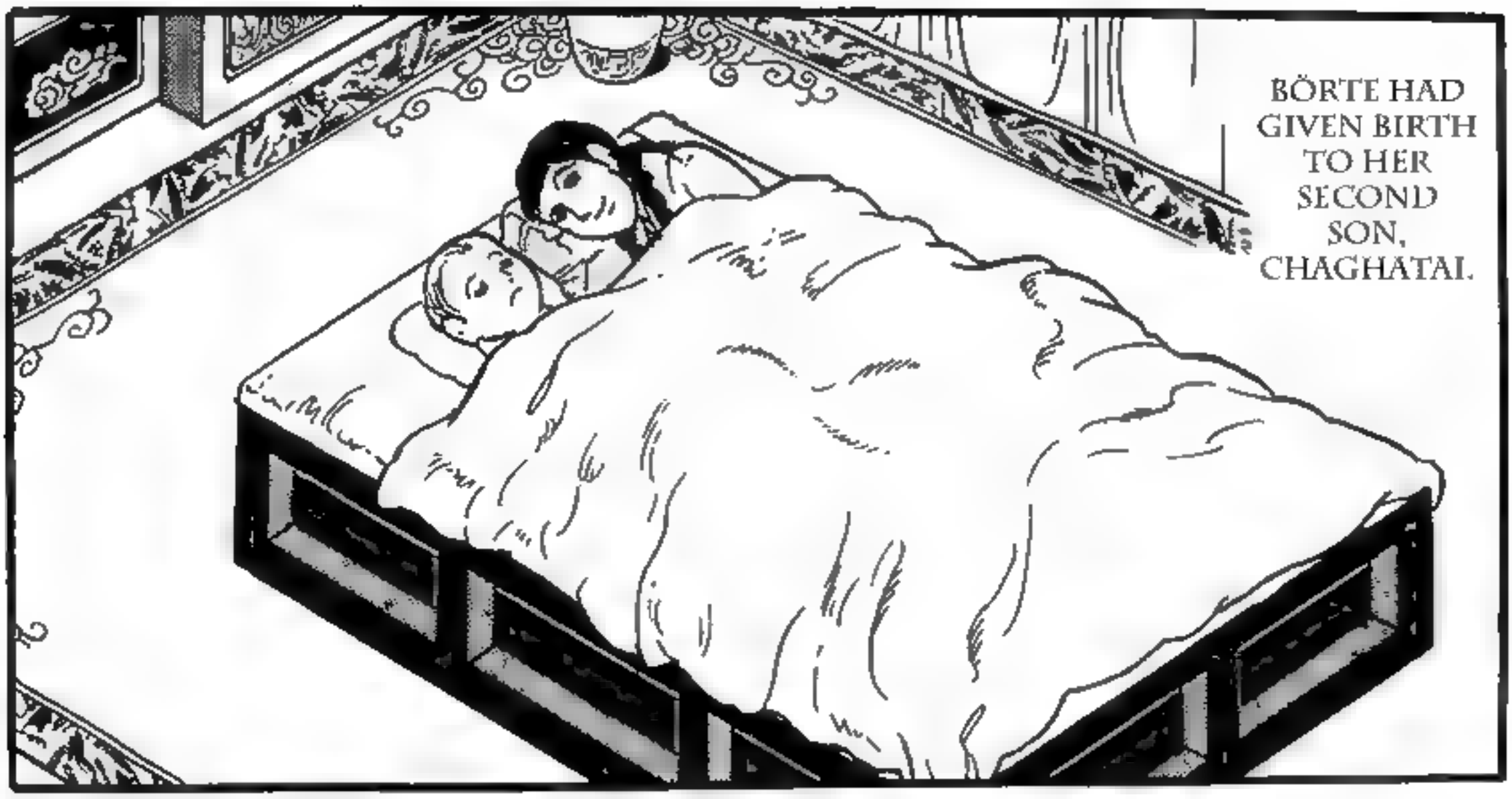
Balzhat


SEVERAL SEASONS,

PASSED;

SINCE TEMUCHIN'S ELECTION,


AS THE NEW MONGOL KHAN.


BÖRTE HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO HER SECOND SON, CHAGHATAI.

TEMUCHIN'S BROTHERS HAD ALL GROWN INTO DEPENDABLE ADULTS.

IMPERIAL
CAMPS

Y-YES...
GIVE ME ANOTHER DRINK, WOMAN!

UGH! MY RAGE GROWS THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT!

WHAT ARE YOU SO ANNOYED OVER, DEAR?

JUST THINK ABOUT IT! WHO DO THE MONGOLS HAVE TO THANK FOR BECOMING UNITED AGAIN...!?

YES, AND...?

MY ELDER BROTHER JAMUKA AND TOGHRUL KHAN, OF COURSE!

I'M PISSED OFF THAT MANY OF OUR FELLOW JADARAT TRIBESMEN HAVE GONE OVER TO THEM AND TEMUCHIN HAS BEEN ONLY TOO HAPPY TO ACCEPT THOSE BACK-STABBERS!

HMM, WELL I DON'T SEE WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT...

I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHY MY BROTHER JAMUKA ALLOWS THIS! DOES HE HESITATE OVER THE OATH OF ANDA?

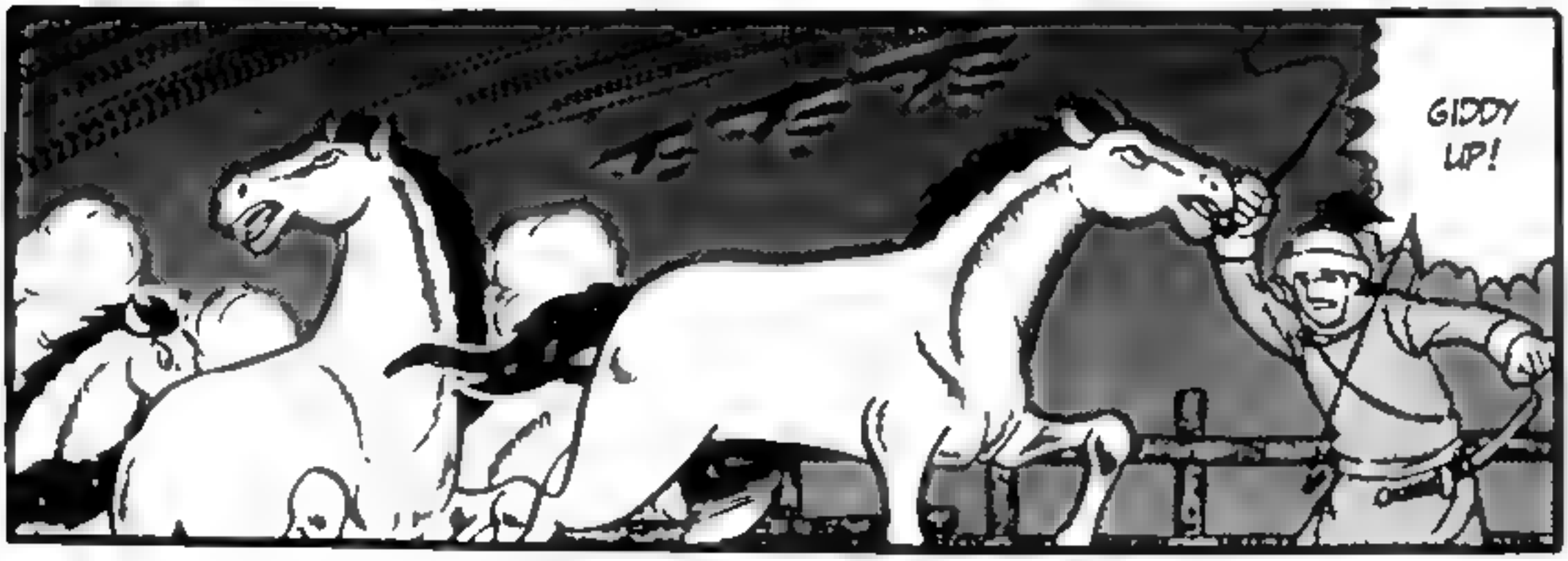
I CAN'T STOP THIS RAGE FROM BOILING UNTIL I PUNISH THE BASTARDS WHO'VE GONE OVER TO TEMUCHIN...

THE NEXT DAY, JAMUKA'S YOUNGER BROTHER TAICHAR HEADED FOR TEMUCHIN'S CAMPS WITH A FEW COMPANIONS.

THAT SHOULD BELONG TO JOCHI-DARMALA, WHO USED TO BE A DEPENDENT OF OUR TRIBE.

WHOSE HER IS THAT?

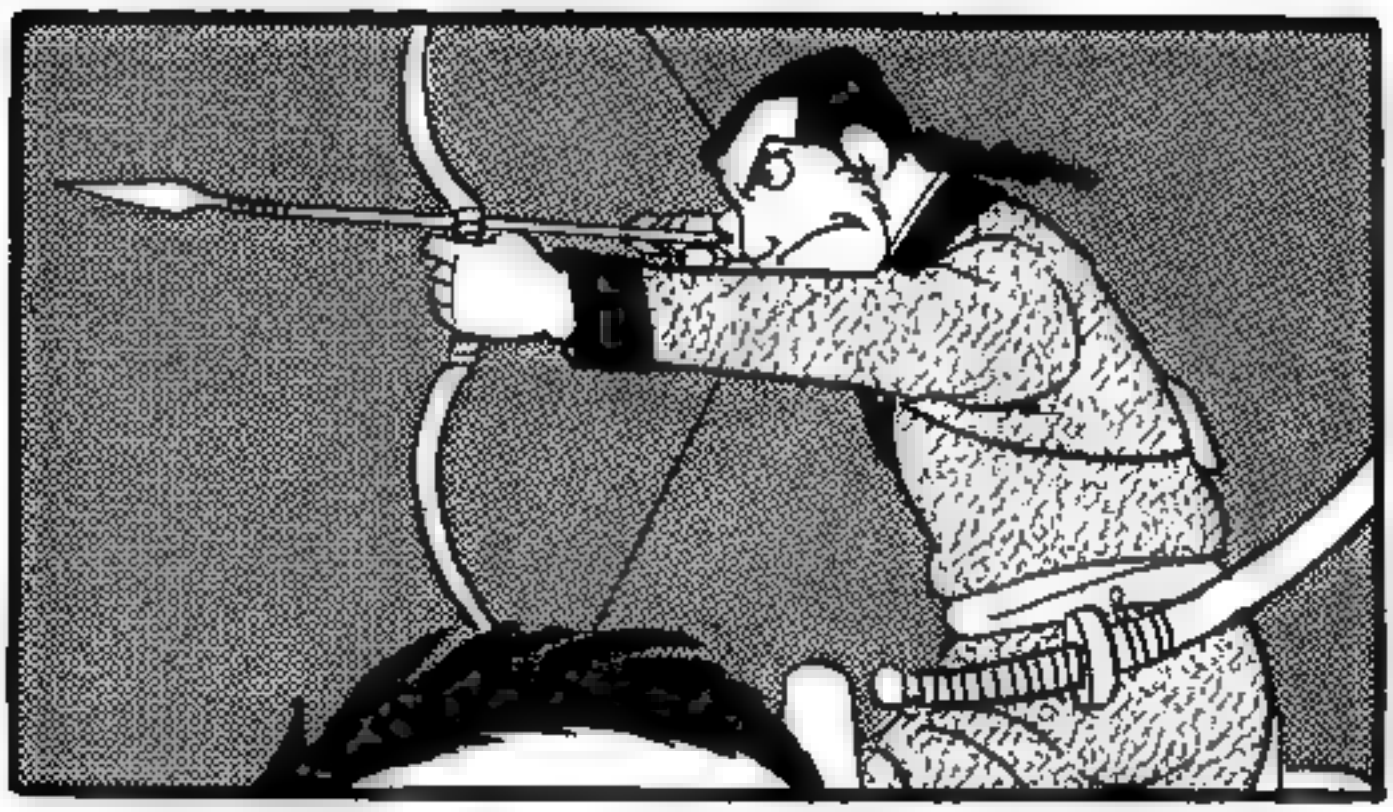
YES
LET'S STEAL HIS HORSES THEN.

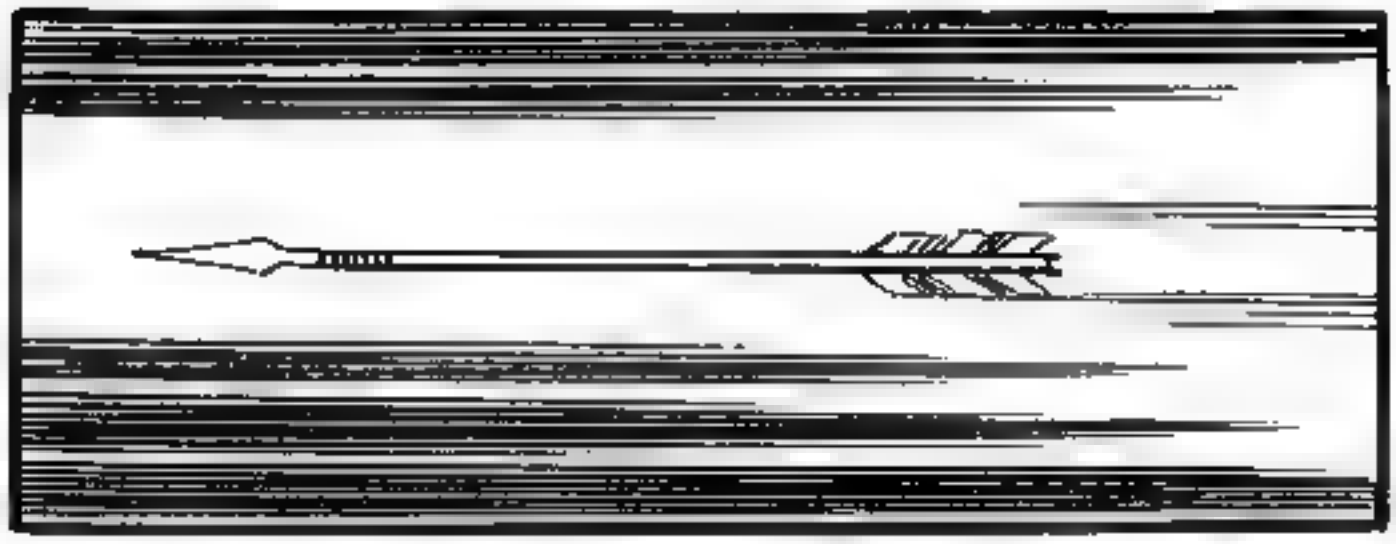

GIDDY UP!

WHAT?

WE HAVE TO GET THEM BACK!

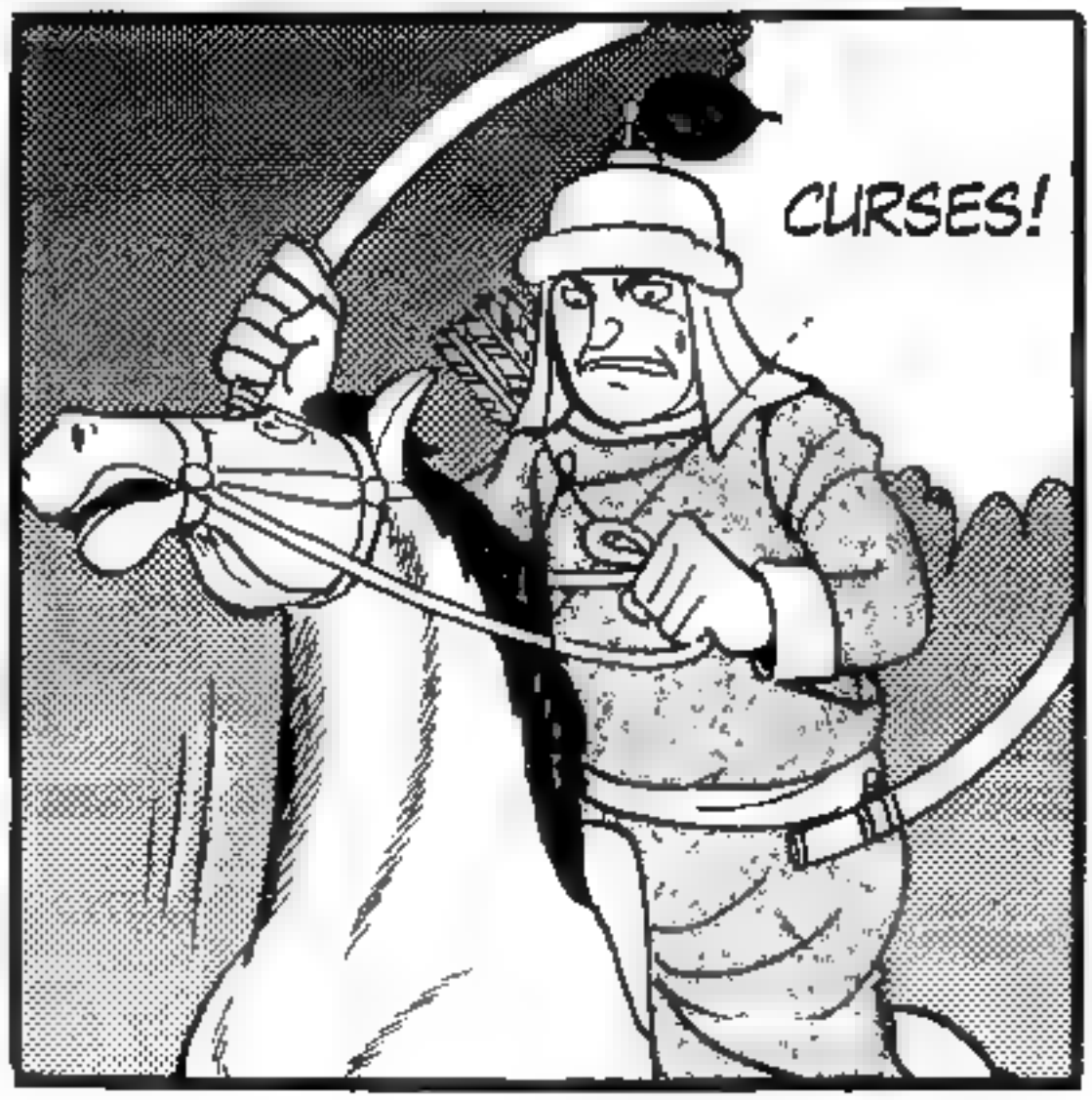
WAKE UP! WE'VE GOT HORSE-THIEVES!





THE ONLY FATE FIT FOR HORSE-THIEVES IS DEATH!

AHH! AREN'T YOU BEKUR OF THE JADARATS!?

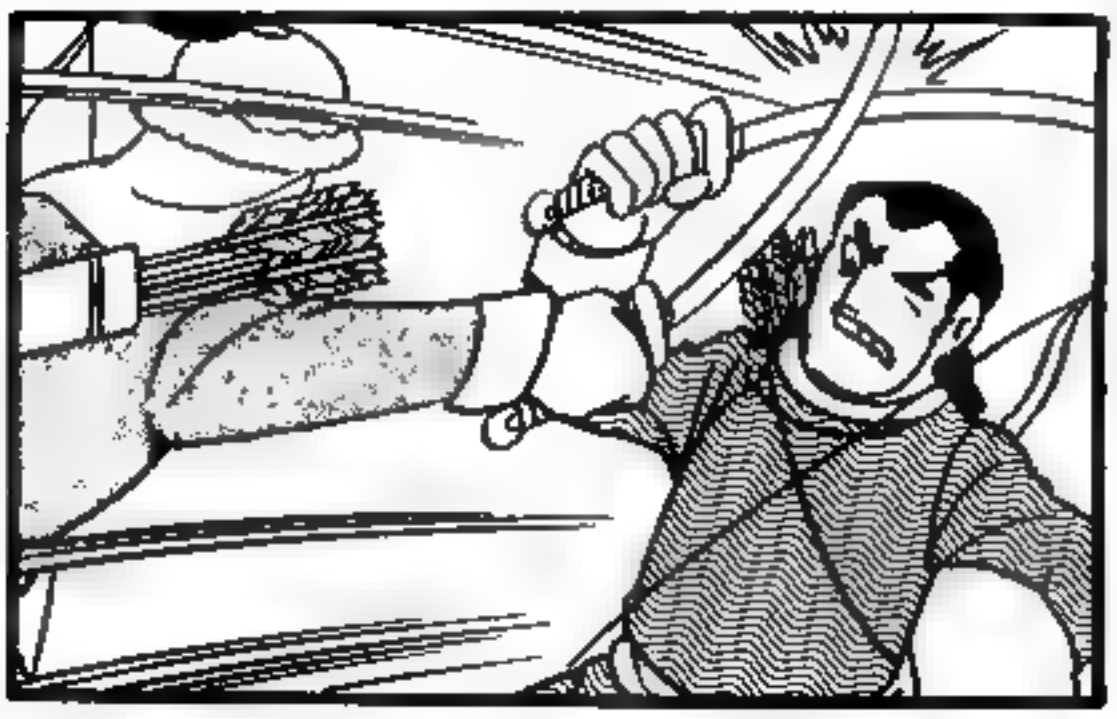

CURSES!

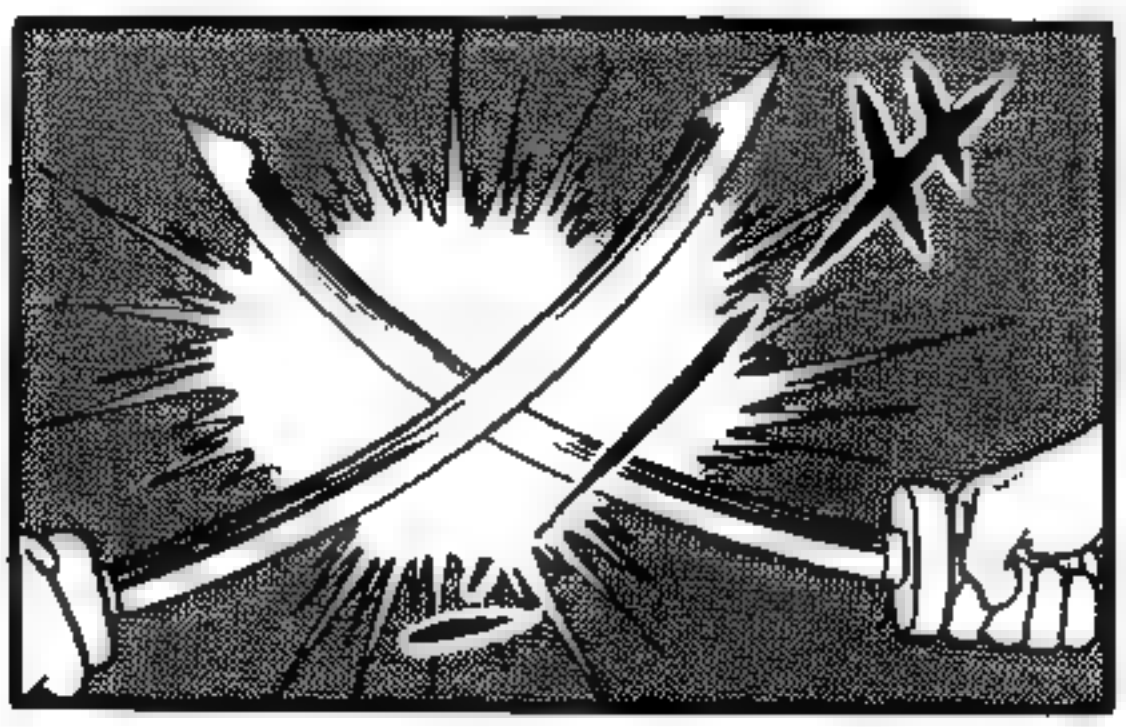
FOR BETRAYING THE JADARAT TRIBE!

WHY WOULD YOU STEAL MY HORSES!?

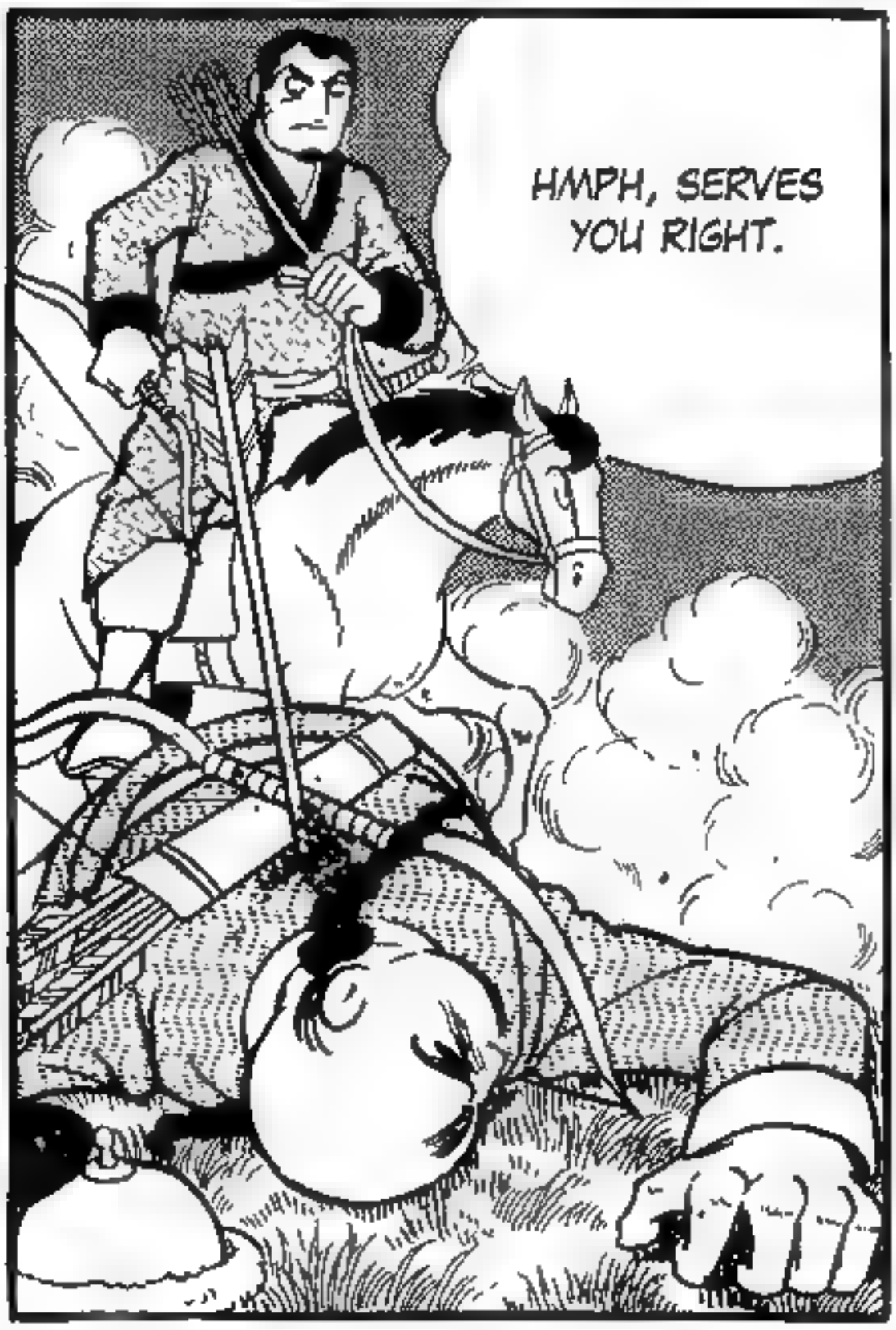
FINE, LET YOUR HEAD BE AN EXAMPLE TO ALL THOSE WHO LEAVE THE JADARATS!
WELL I'M NOT JUST GONNA LET YOU TAKE MY HORSES WITHOUT A FIGHT!

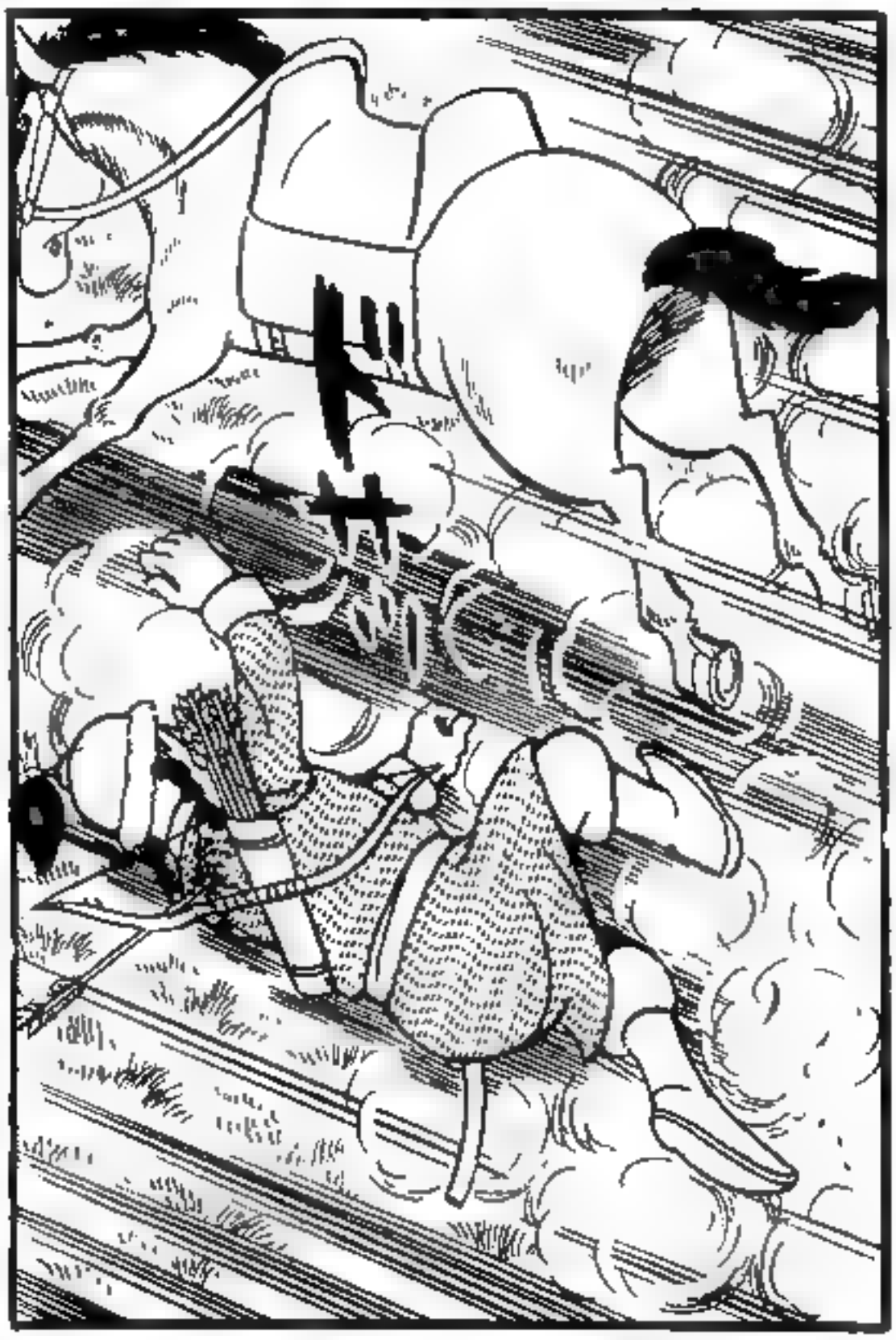
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!

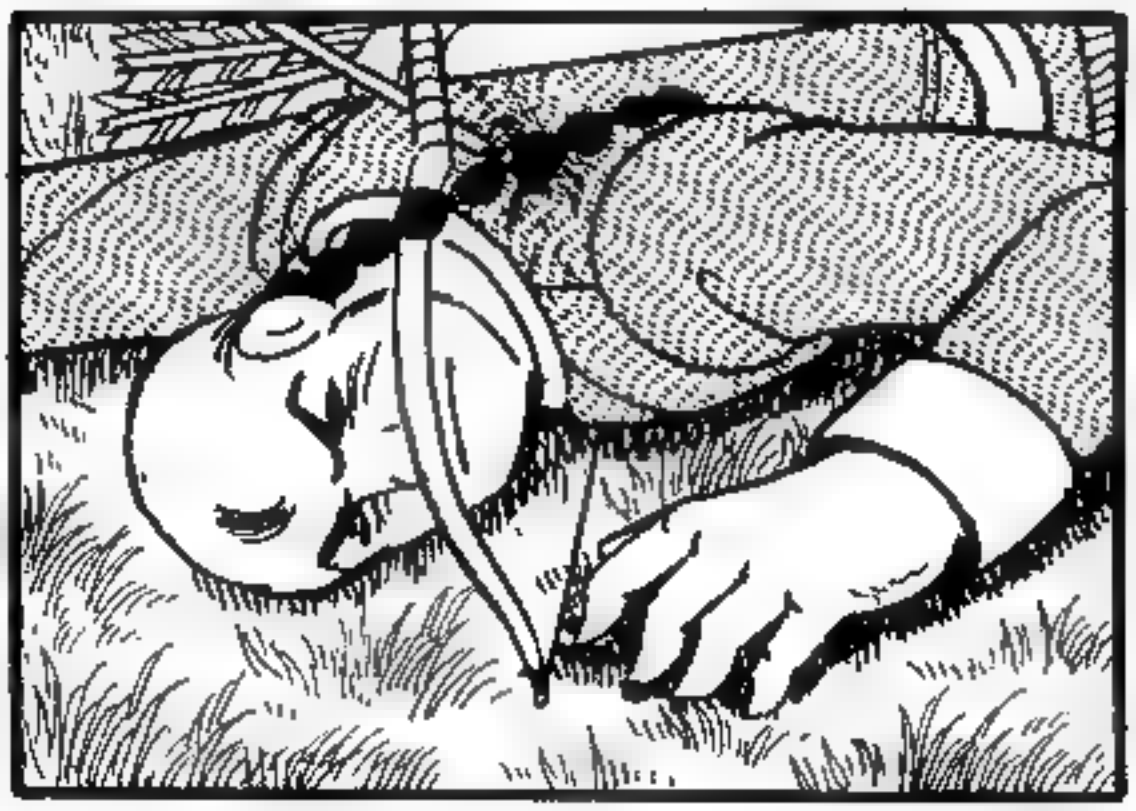




STOP RIGHT THERE, HORSE-THIEF!


HMPH, SERVES YOU RIGHT.





AHHH!

HEY! WE TOOK CARE OF THE OTHER THIEVES!

THIS IS TAICHAR, THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF JAMUKA!

YES, I KNOW...

THE THIEVES TURNED OUT TO BE JADARAT TRIBESMEN.

LOOK.

HIS SLAYING WILL HAVE GRAVE CONSE-QUENCES...

IT'S JAMUKA'S YOUNGER BROTHER!

I-ISN'T THAT TAICHAR!?

R-RIGHT...

GET THE HORSES BACK TO OUR CAMP. I'LL GO ON AHEAD TO ALERT TEMUCHIN OF WHAT HAPPENED.

YES, AND I ENDED UP KILLING HIM WITH AN ARROW.

WHAT!? THE HORSE-THIEF TURNED OUT TO BE JAMUKA'S YOUNGER BROTHER!?

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

HMM, THIS IS QUITE TROUBLING...

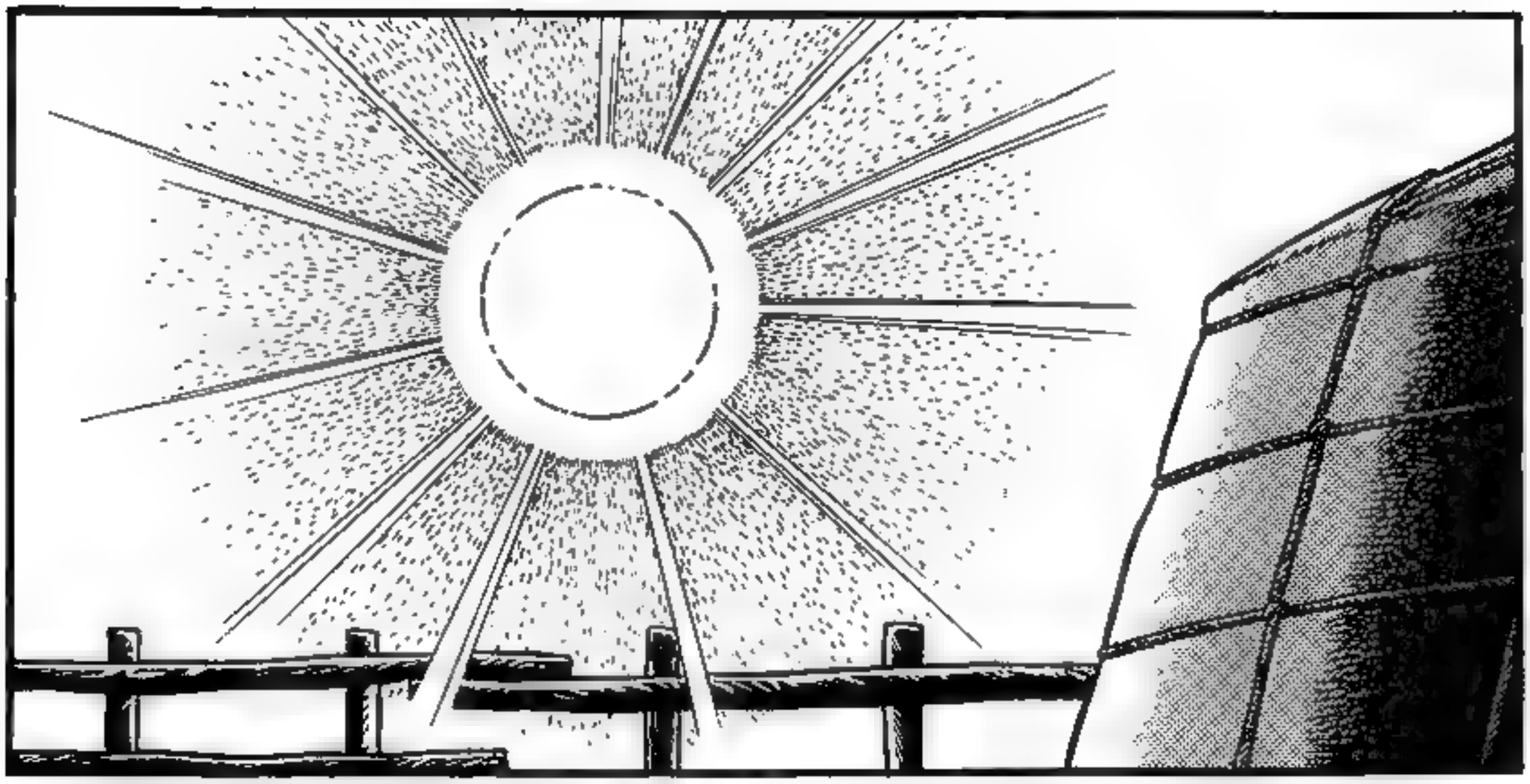
BUT EVEN SO, JAMUKA WON'T SIT QUIETLY...

WELL, KILLING A HORSE-THIEF IS CONSIDERED JUST ON THE STEPPE SO YOU ARE GUILTY OF NOTHING.

WHEN I BECAME KHAN, DID I NOT PROMISE TO SECURE YOUR SAFETY?

YES, KHAN.

REST YOUR WORRIES AND RETURN HOME FOR NOW.



YES, BUT JOCHI-DARMALA IS NOT AT FAULT. THE BLAME LIES WITH THE JADARAT HORSE THIEVES.
WHAT!? JAMUKA'S YOUNGER BROTHER WAS SHOT OFF HIS HORSE AND KILLED!?

YES, HE'LL SURELY CLAIM THAT IT WAS YOU WHO BROKE YOUR DUTY AS ANDA AND SEEK VENGEANCE FOR THE DEATH OF HIS BROTHER.

WE ALL KNOW JAMUKA'S HARBOURED ILL WILL TOWARDS YOU FOR SOME TIME NOW, BUT HE'S ONLY HELD BACK DUE TO WHAT OTHERS MAY THINK IF HE BROKE OFF THE ANDA. BUT NOW THAT HE HAS A CLAIM OF SOME SORT HE CAN USE TO PUSH FOR WAR...
I CAN ONLY EXPECT WAR.

THE PROBLEM IS HOW JAMUKA WILL RESPOND...
HE MAY DEMAND JOCHI-DARMALA'S HEAD OR GIVE US BATTLE...

YES.

DO THE REST OF YOU THINK THE SAME?

YES, KHAN.

CHILA'UN. QUICKLY GO SCOUT OUT THE JADARAT'S ACTIONS.

YES, KHAN.

EVERYONE ELSE GET PREPARED FOR ANY RAIDS THE JADARATS MAY STAGE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

YES, THERE IS ONE THING THAT WORRIES ME...

WHAT IS IT, BO'ORCHU? DO YOU STILL HAVE SOMETHING YOU WISH TO SAY?

TEMUCHIN, PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY. I SAY THIS AS A WORRIED FRIEND.

THOUGH WE MAY NUMBER AROUND THE SAME AS THE JADARATS, WE DIFFER IN OUR MAKE-UP.

THE OTHER TRIBES AND THEIR ELDERS WHO JOINED US NOT TOO LONG AGO MIGHT PROFESS LOYALTY BUT THAT IS MERELY A FACADE.

DON'T WORRY, I WILL NOT GET ANGRY NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY.

.....

NOT A SINGLE ONE OF YOUR UNCLES OR COUSINS CAME TO HELP YOU IN THE PAST WHEN YOUR FATHER PASSED AWAY.

THEY'RE ALL HERE TRYING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR NEWFOUND POPULARITY AMONG THE MASSES. THEIR GOAL IS TO USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO BECOME THE NEXT KHAN THEMSELVES.

THEN WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST I DO?

IF YOU WERE TO DIE IN BATTLE, THE MATTER OF SUCCESSION WILL SURELY SPLIT THE MONGOL CONFEDERACY INTO SMALLER TRIBES JUST AS BEFORE.

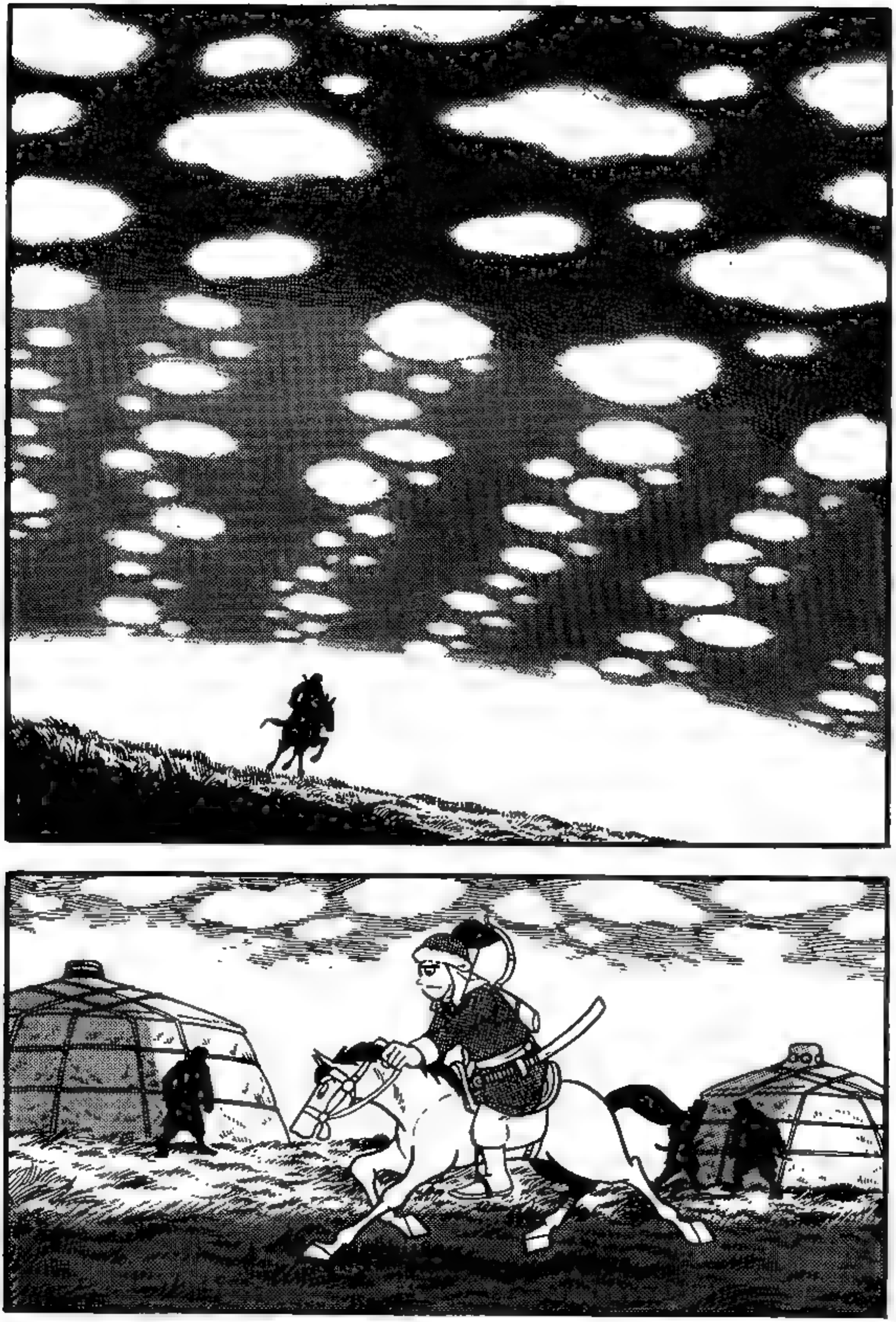
JUST DON'T DIE IN THE COMING BATTLE. IF OUR ALLIED-TRIBES ONLY HALF-HEARTEDLY FIGHT AND THE MOMENTUM SWINGS AGAINST OUR FAVOUR IN THE HEAT OF THE BATTLE, YOU SHOULD RETREAT AT ONCE.

YES. DO SO, AND THE MONGOLS WILL SURVIVE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ADVICE, BO'ORCHU. I SHALL HEED IT WELL.

BO'ORCHU... A FRIEND LIKE YOU IS A TRUE ANDA.

I'LL NOW GO AND HELP OUT WITH THE BATTLE PREPARATIONS.



YES, CHILA'UN?

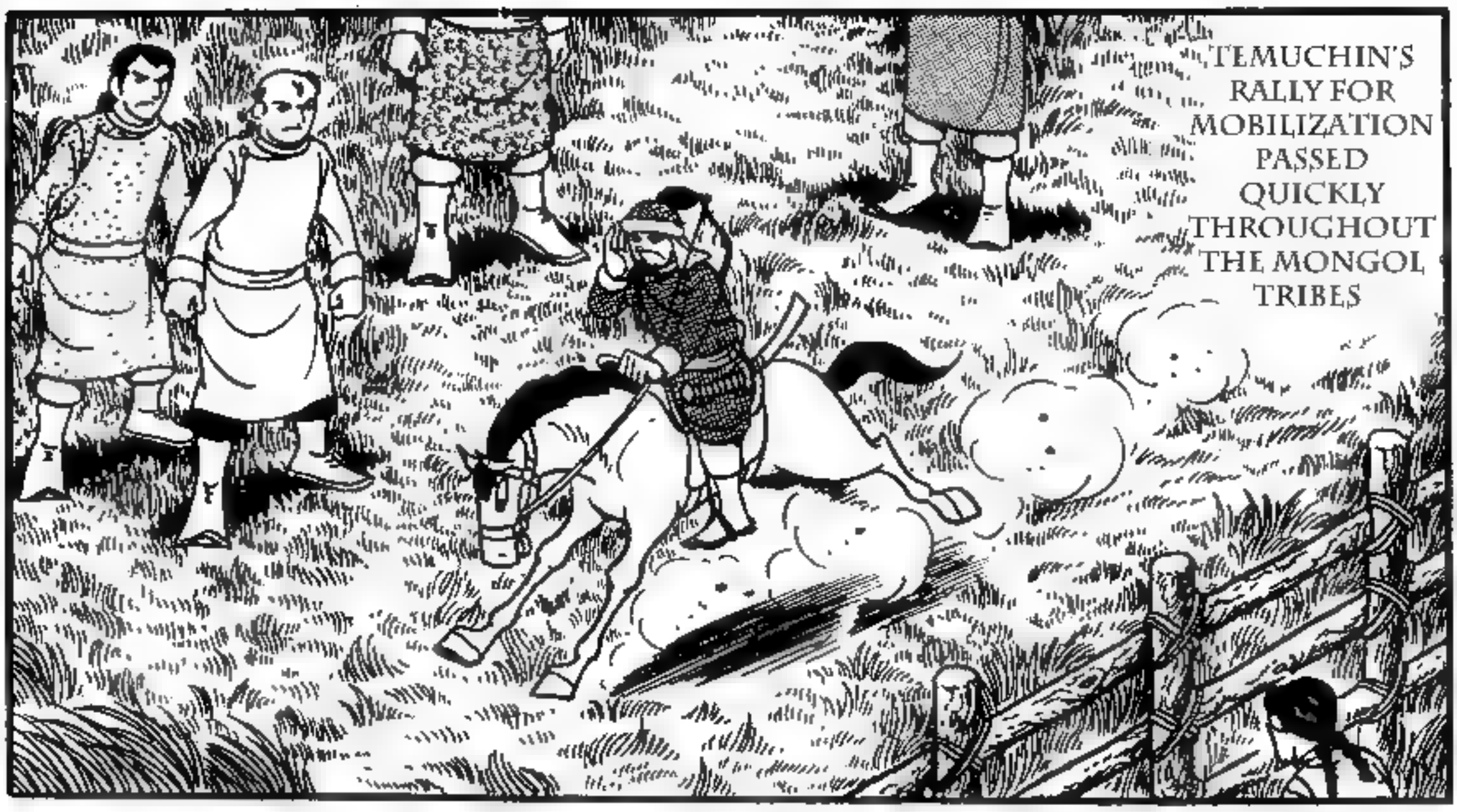
KHAN!

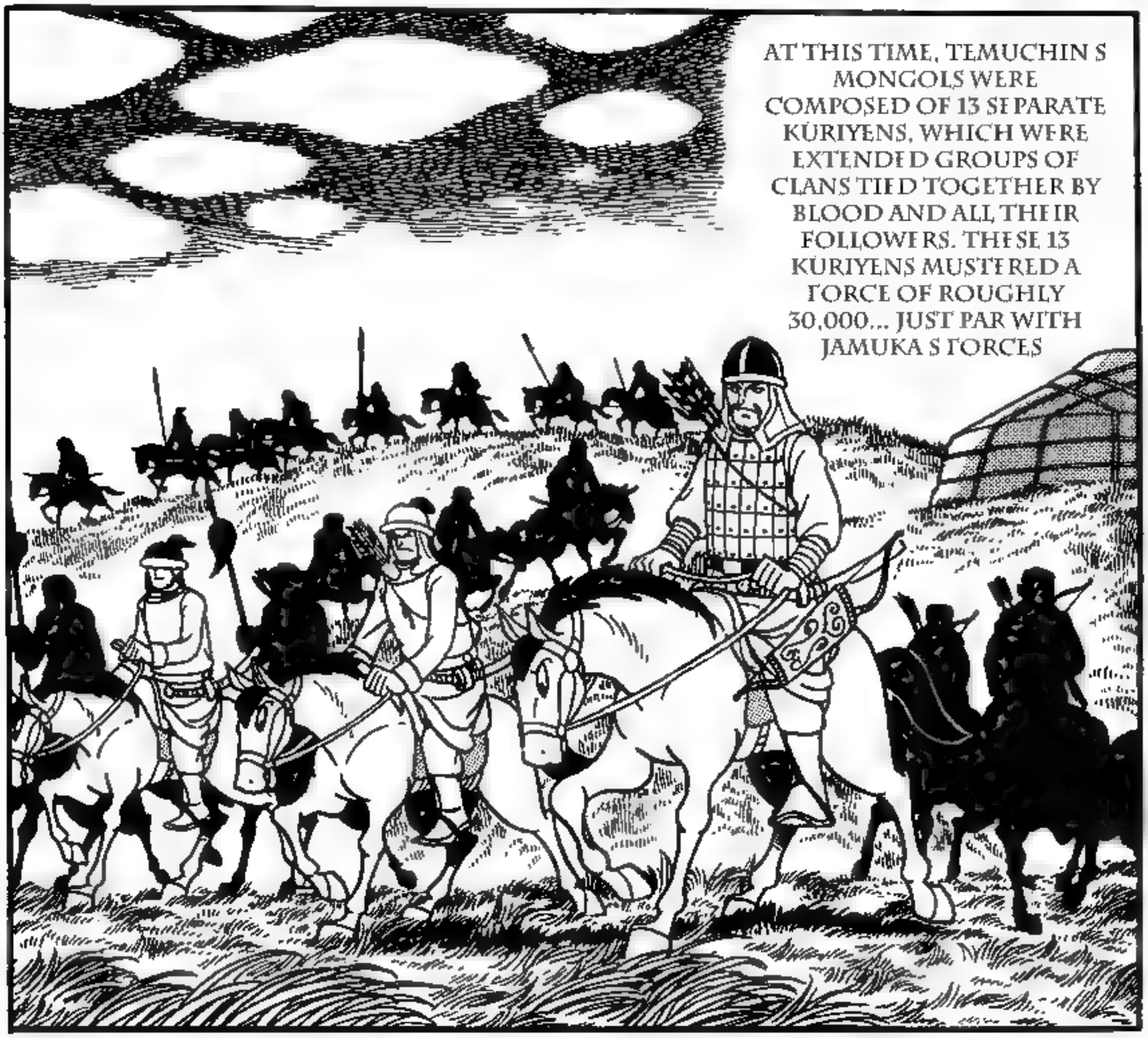
WHAT!?

JAMUKA IS PREPARING TO LEAD AN ARMY OF 30,000 HERE!

YES!

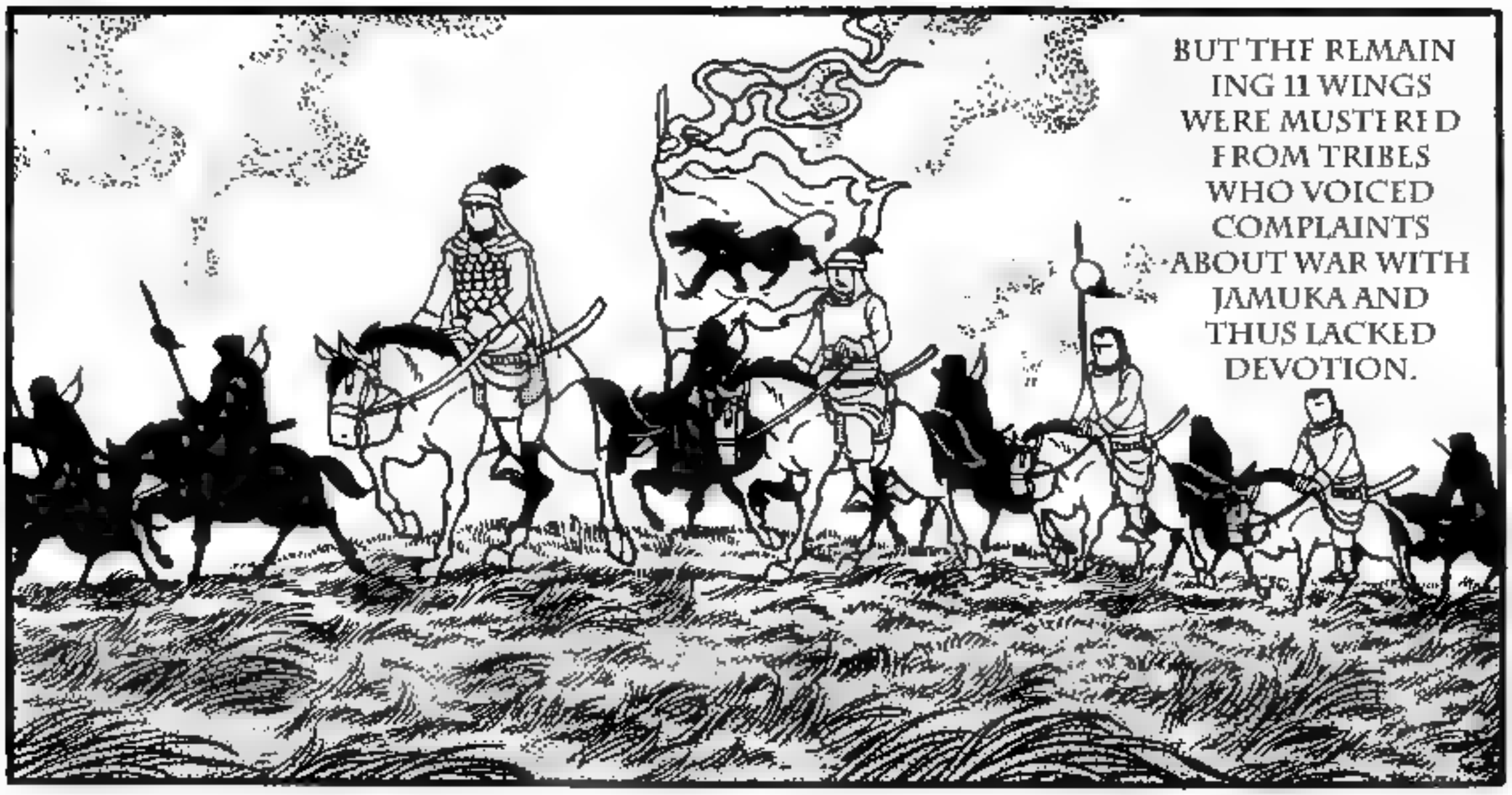
ALERT THE HEADS OF THE OTHER TRIBES AT ONCE!


TEMUCHIN'S RALLY FOR MOBILIZATION PASSED QUICKLY THROUGHOUT THE MONGOL TRIBES


AT THIS TIME, TEMUCHIN S MONGOLS WERE COMPOSED OF 13 SEPARATE KÜRIYENS, WHICH WERE EXTENDED GROUPS OF CLANS TIED TOGETHER BY BLOOD AND ALL THEIR FOLLOWERS. THESE 13 KÜRIYENS MUSTERED A FORCE OF ROUGHLY 30,000... JUST PAR WITH JAMUKA S FORCES

TEMUCHIN THUS ACCORDINGLY SPLIT HIS ARMY INTO 13 WINGS, ONE FOR EACH KURIYEN.

TWO WINGS WERE COMMANDED BY TEMUCHIN, BO'ORCHU, JELME, AND THEIR DIRECT FOLLOWERS AND COULD THUS BE TRUSTED IN THE THICK OF BATTLE.

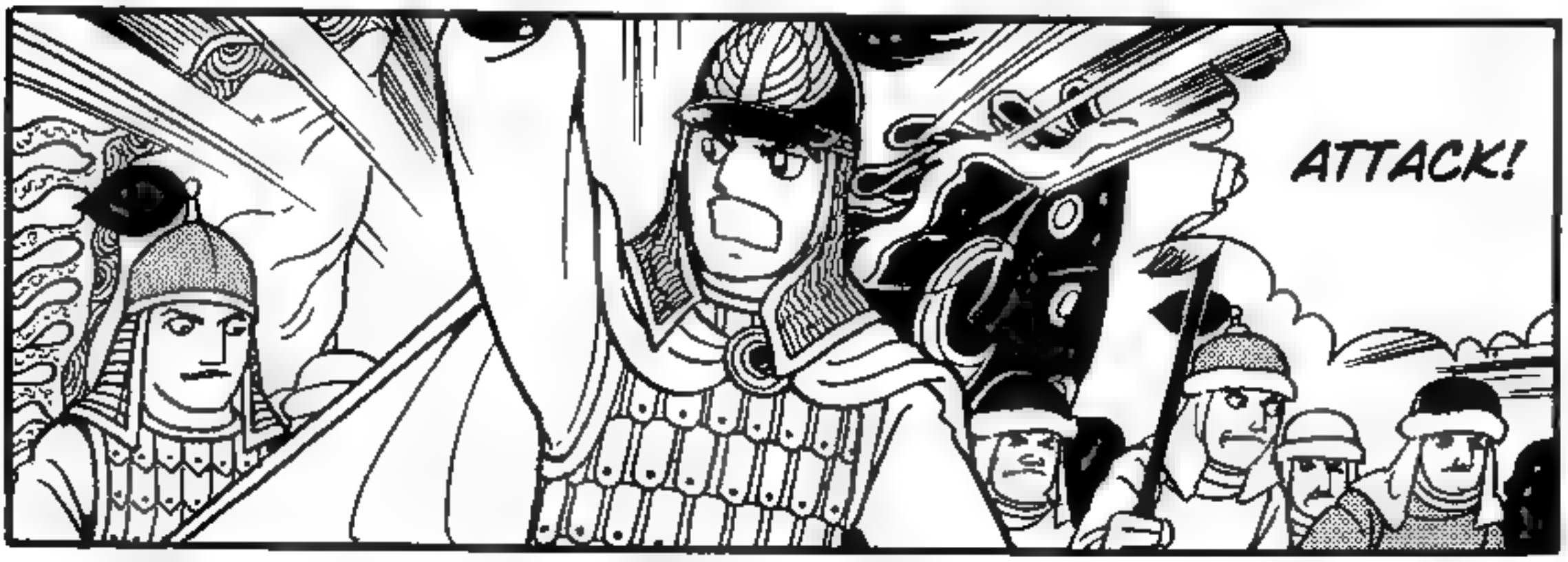

BUT THE REMAINING 11 WINGS WERE MUSTERED FROM TRIBES WHO VOICED COMPLAINTS ABOUT WAR WITH JAMUKA AND THUS LACKED DEVOTION.

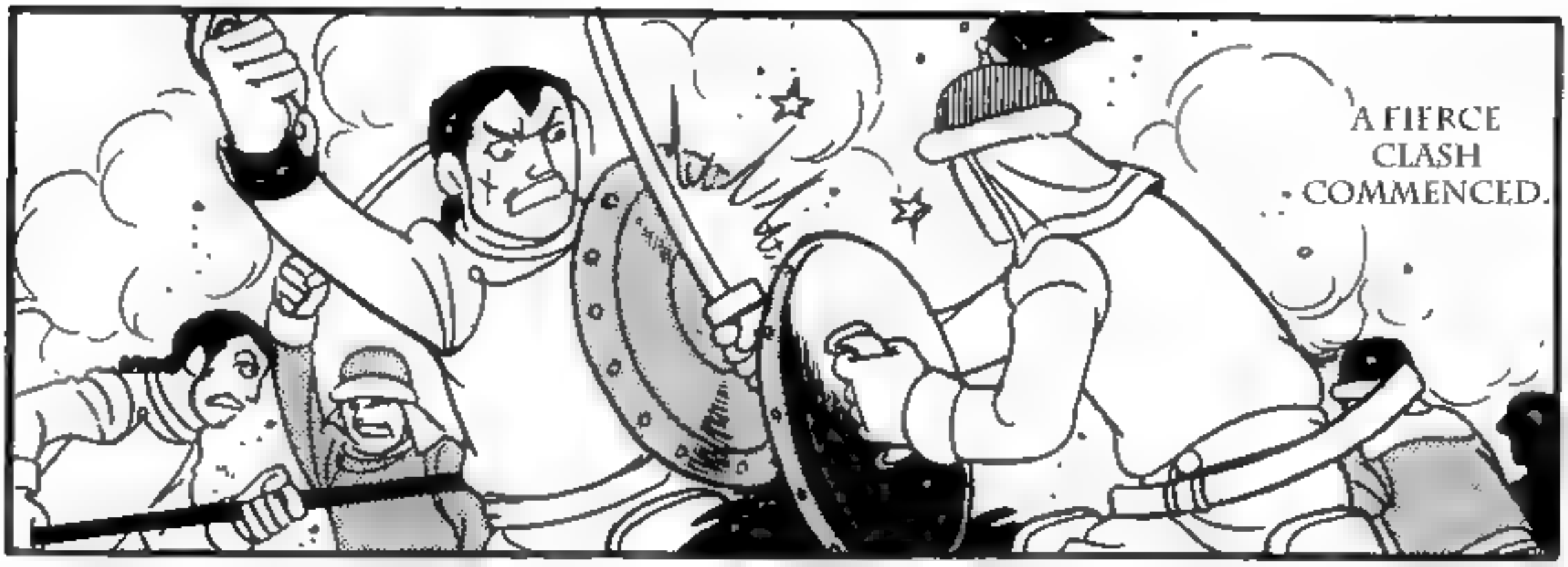
THE TWO ARMIES FACED OFF AT THE DALAN BALZHAT FIELD.

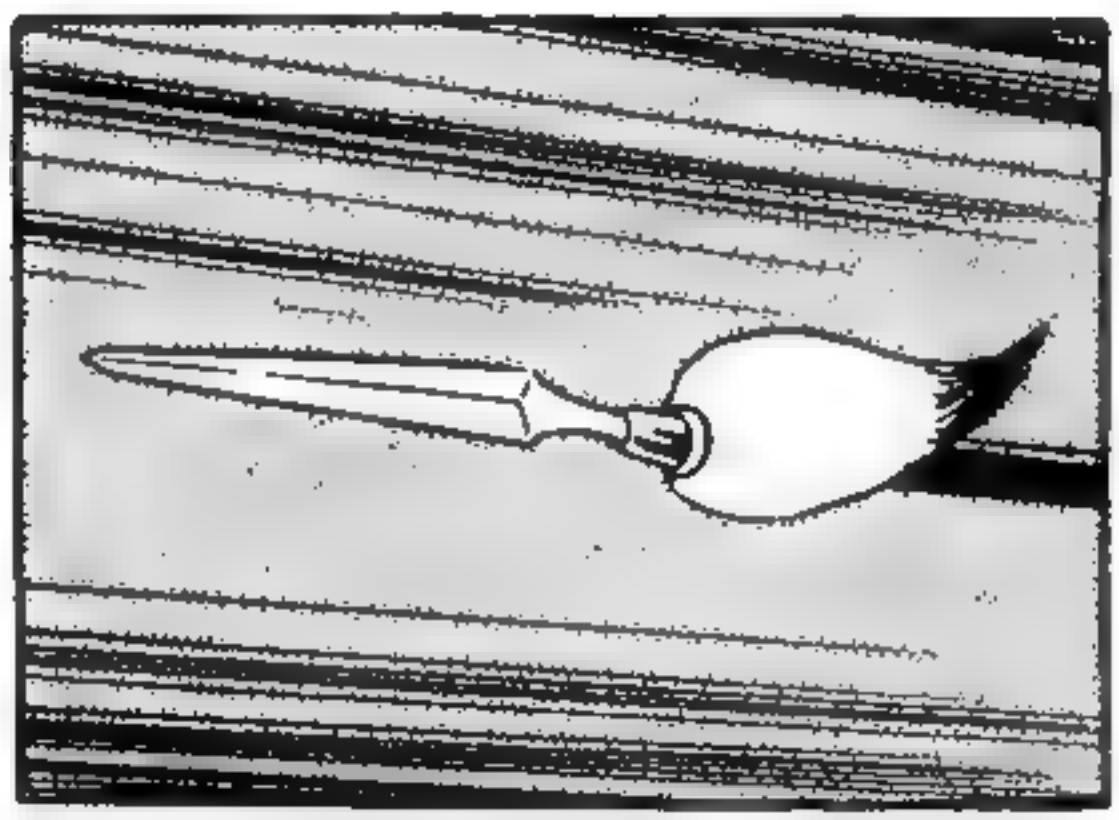
13 REGIMENTS? SO HE DIVIDED HIS ARMY BY HIS KÜRIYEN, DID HE NOW? HAHA, THIS BATTLE'S AS GOOD AS WON.

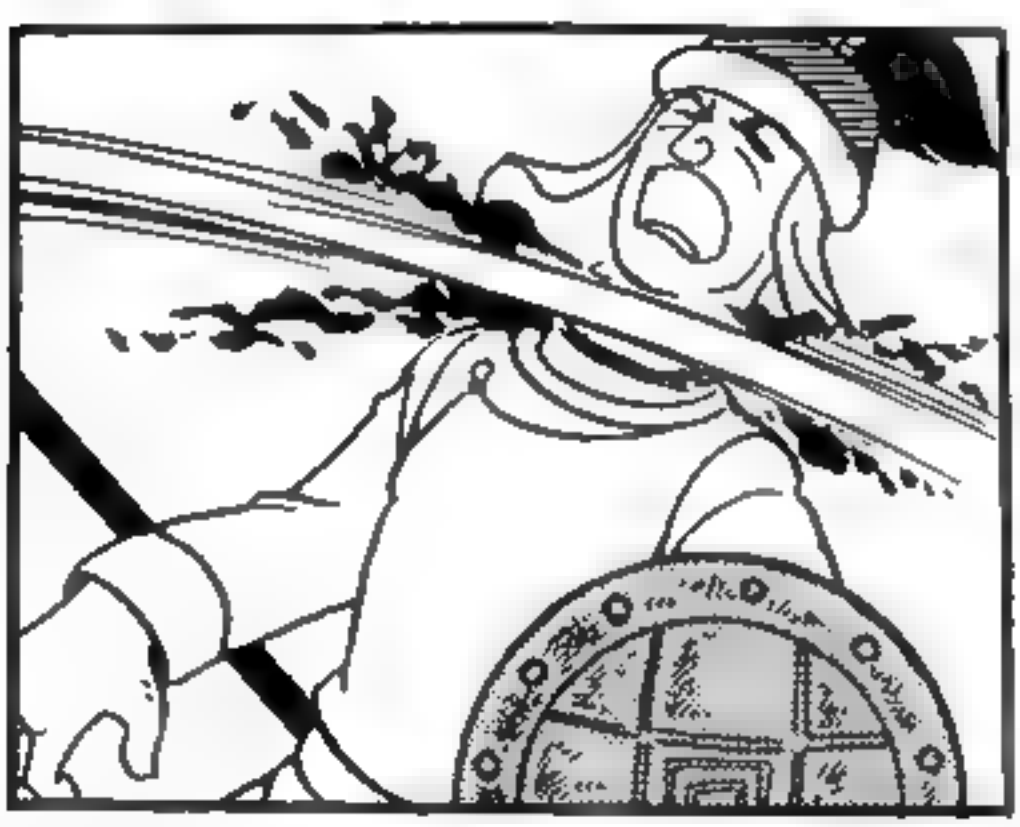
GIVE THE SIGNAL FOR ATTACK!

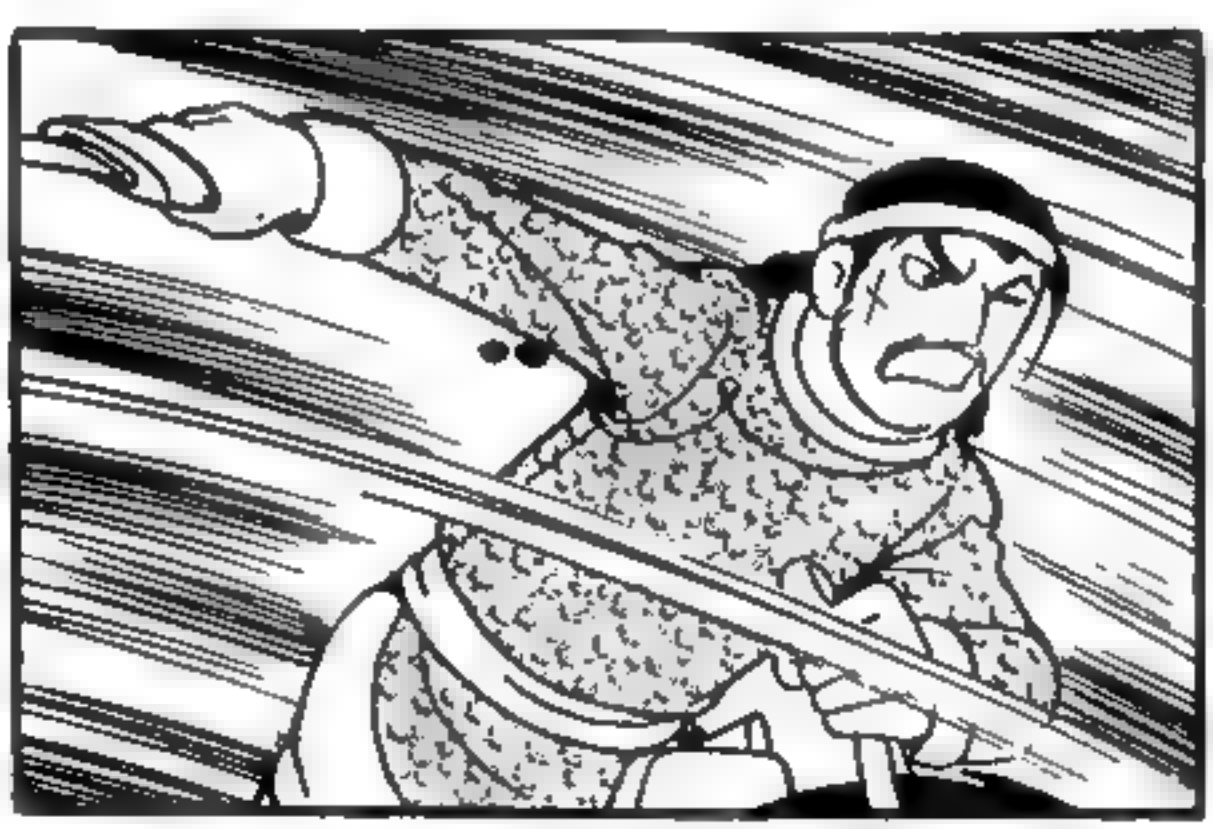
FROM WHAT I HEAR, ONLY 1 OR 2 KÜRIYEN ARE LOYAL TO TEMUCHIN. THE REST ARE LIKELY TO HAVE BEEN MUSTERED IN SPITE OF THEIR HESITANCE OR OBJECTIONS. THEY WILL NOT GIVE THEIR LIVES FOR TEMUCHIN'S SAKE.


ATTACK!


A FIERCE CLASH COMMENCED.







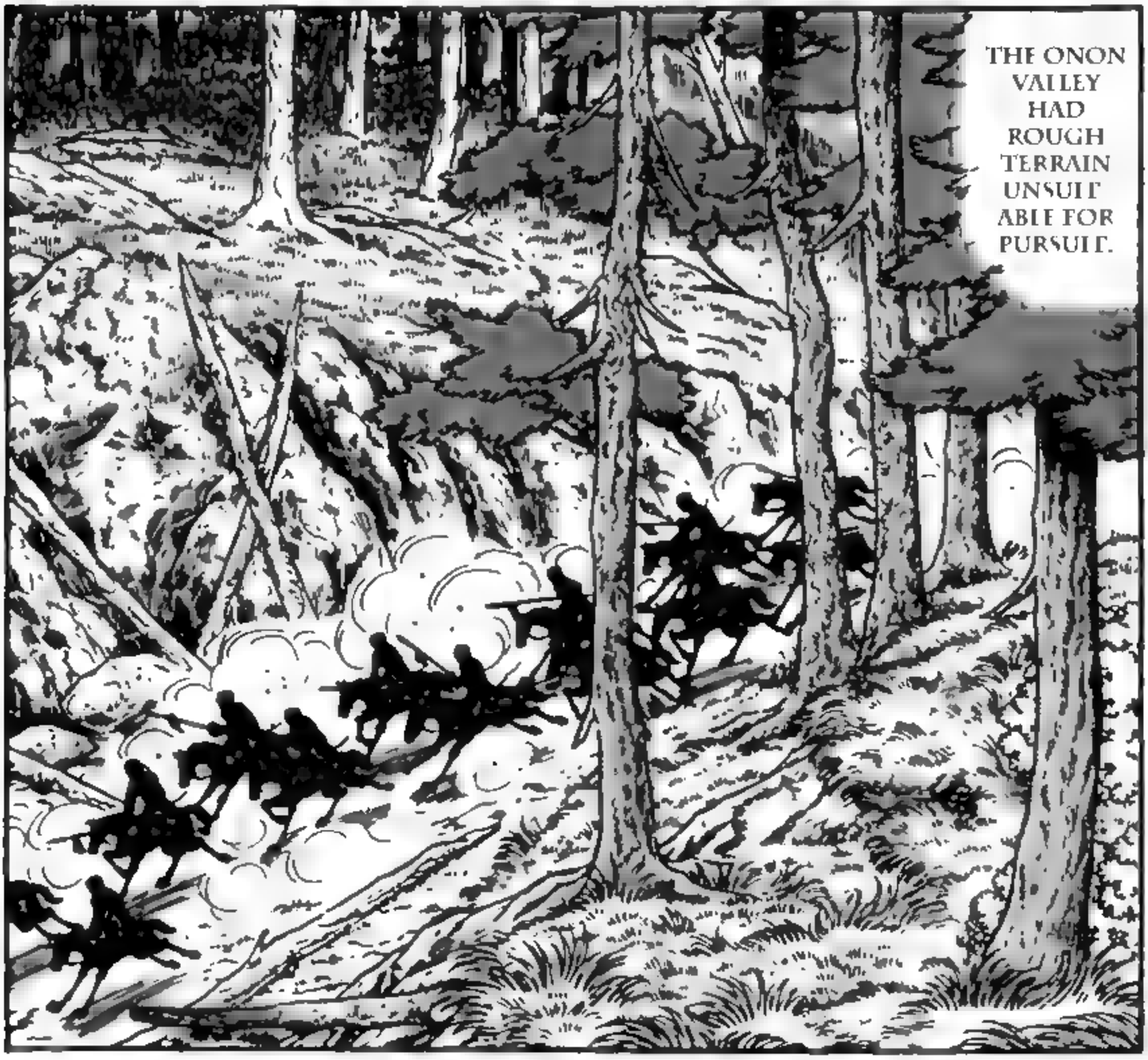
YES, KHAN.

GIVE THE SIGNAL TO RETREAT ALL THE WAY TO ONON RIVER VALLEY.

OUR WINGS APPEAR TO BE WAVERING, KHAN.

RETREAT! RETREAT! RETREAT TO THE ONON RIVER VALLEY!

THE WINGS SCATTERED AT ONCE


THE ONON VALLEY HAD ROUGH TERRAIN UNSUIT ABLE FOR PURSUIT.

THE ENEMIES HAVE BEGUN THEIR FLIGHT! CHASE AFTER THEM!

AHH!

HMM?

I AGREE. NARROW ROADS LIKE THESE ARE PERFECT PLACES FOR THE ENEMY TO PLACE AMBUSHES.

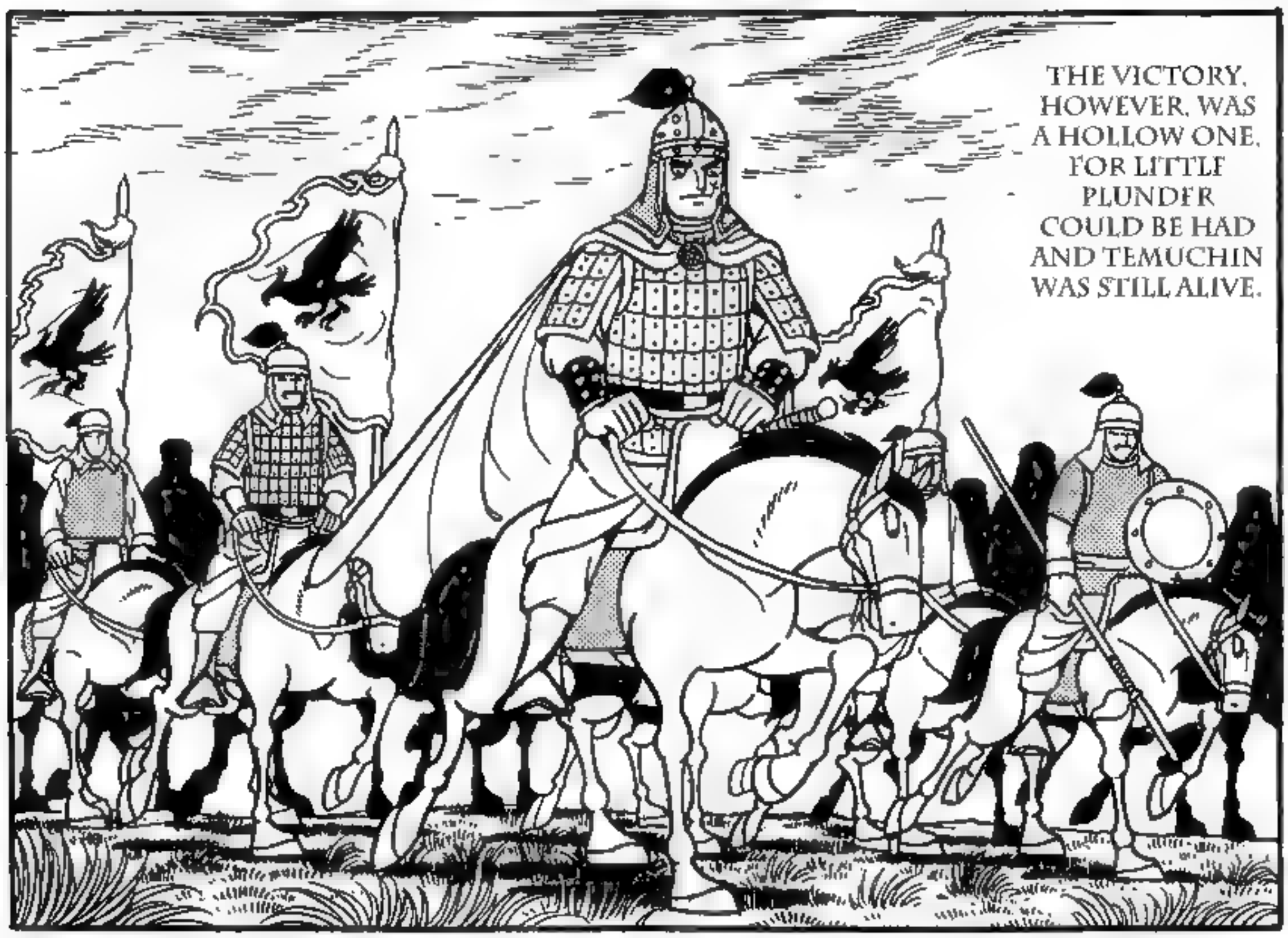
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO CONTINUE OUR PURSUIT, SIR.

YOU'RE RIGHT. AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO TAKE TEMUCHIN'S HEAD, I AM FORCED TO PUT THAT OFF FOR ANOTHER DAY.

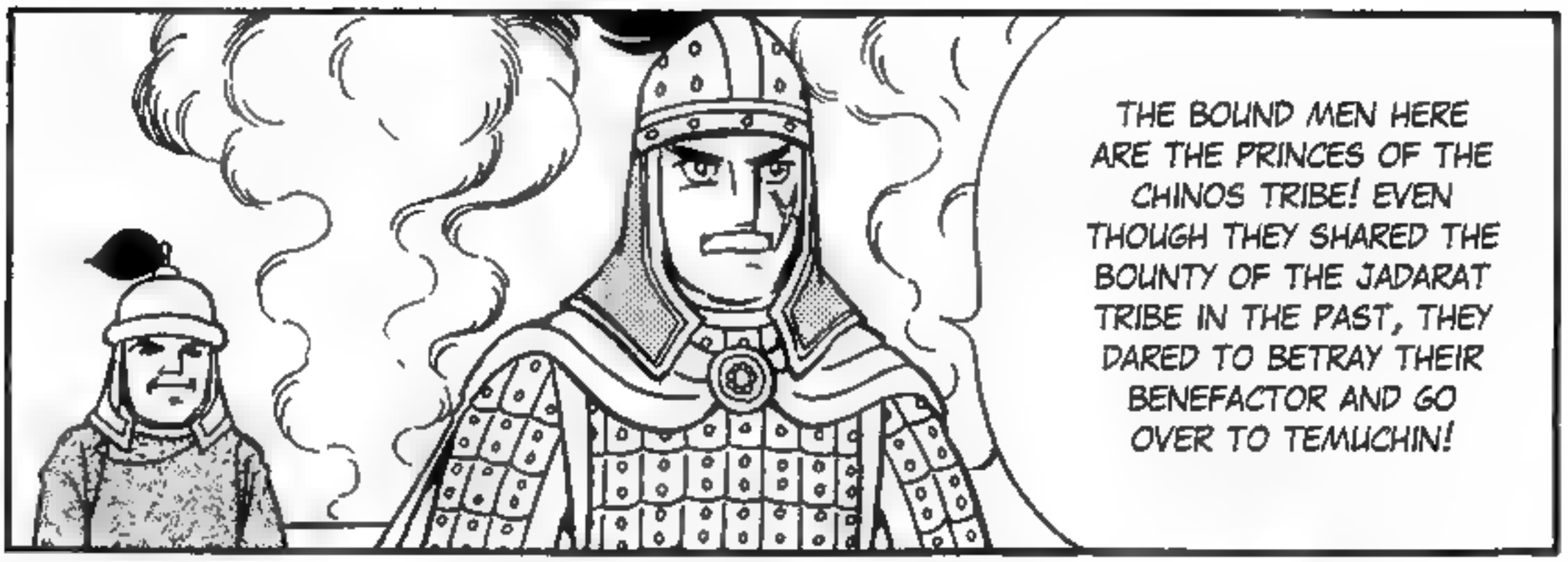
NGHH...

STILL, WE HAVE WON A GREAT VICTORY TODAY! LET US REJOICE!

AND SO JAMUKA'S ARMY, TOO, RETREATED FOR THE DAY.

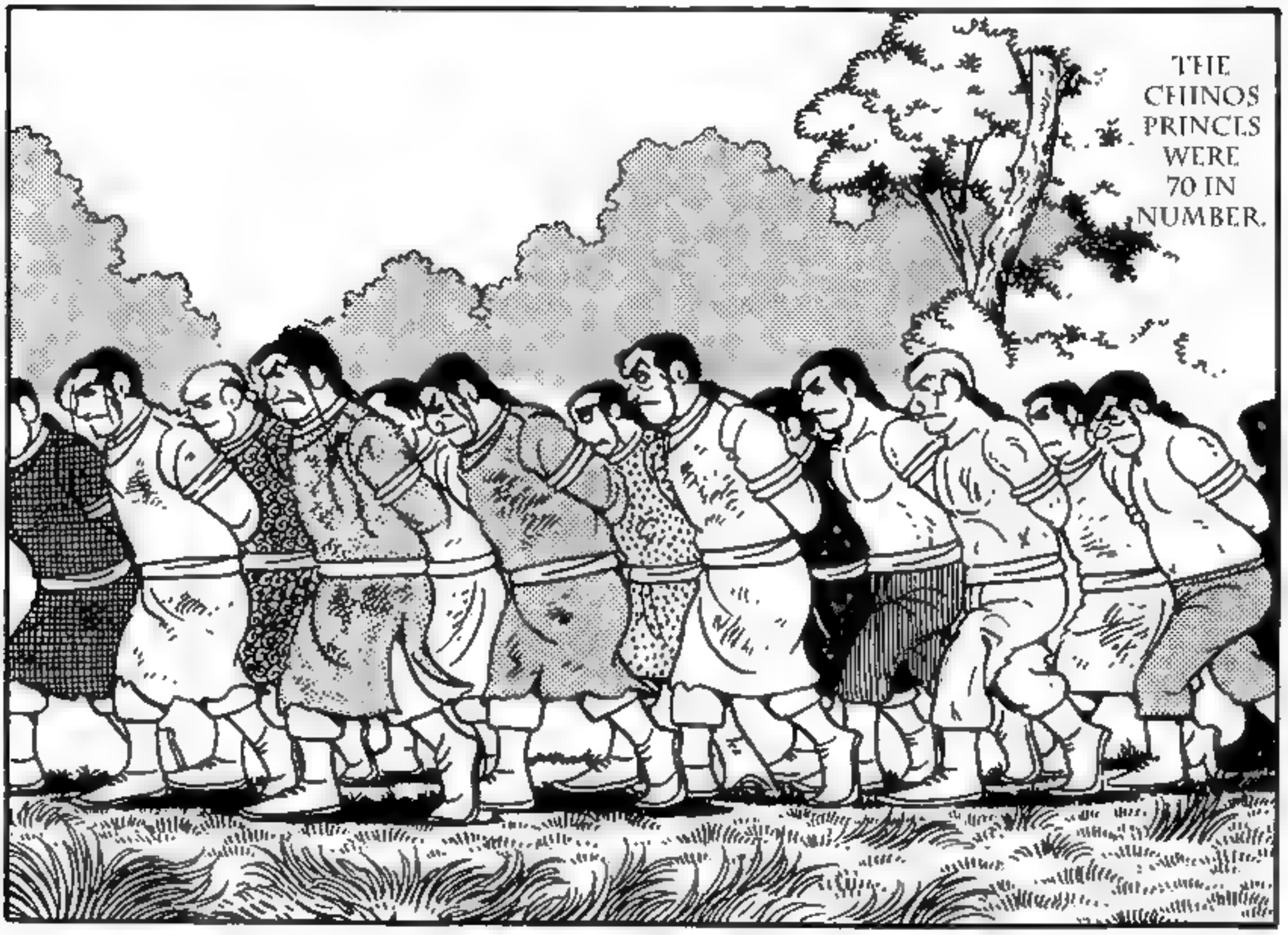

THE VICTORY, HOWEVER, WAS A HOLLOW ONE, FOR LITTLE PLUNDER COULD BE HAD AND TEMUCHIN WAS STILL ALIVE.

MY FELLOW ALLIED TRIBE-LEADERS! THANK YOU FOR HONOURING MY CALL AND FIGHTING UNDER MY BANNER TODAY! TEMUCHIN'S ARMY HAS BEEN PUT TO FLIGHT AND HE WILL SURELY THINK TWICE BEFORE HE DARES TO WRONG THE JADARATS AGAIN!


THE BOUND MEN HERE ARE THE PRINCES OF THE CHINOS TRIBE! EVEN THOUGH THEY SHARED THE BOUNTY OF THE JADARAT TRIBE IN THE PAST, THEY DARED TO BETRAY THEIR BENEFACTOR AND GO OVER TO TEMUCHIN!

YES, SIR!

BEGIN THE EXECUTION!


THE CHINOS PRINCES WERE 70 IN NUMBER.

AGHHH!

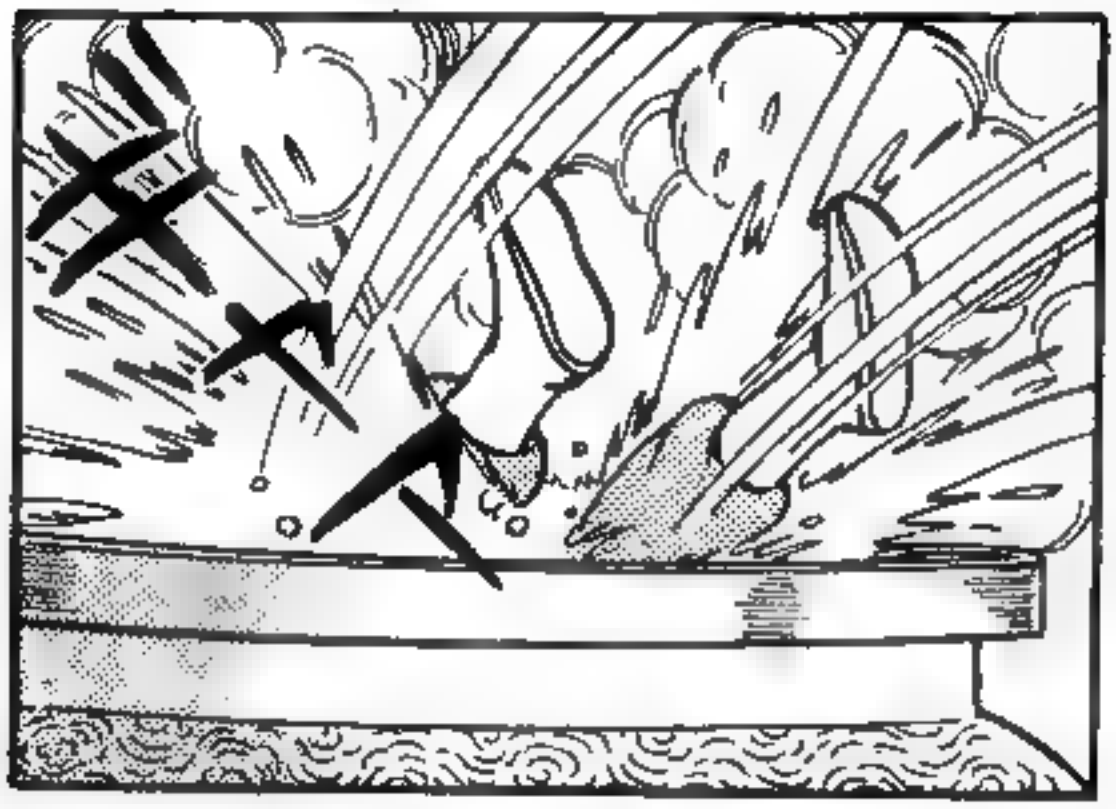
THIS BOILING CAULDRON WILL KILL EVEN YOUR SOUL, SO THAT IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HARM US FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE!

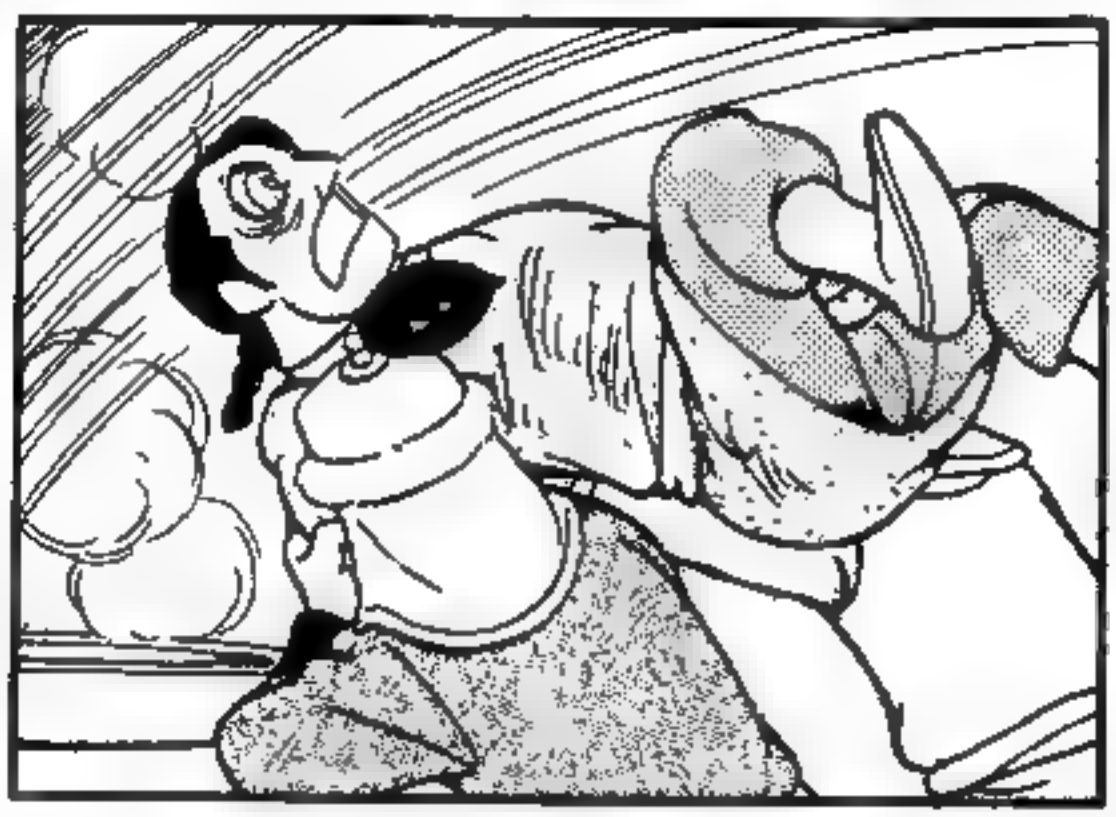
STOP COMPL-AINING!

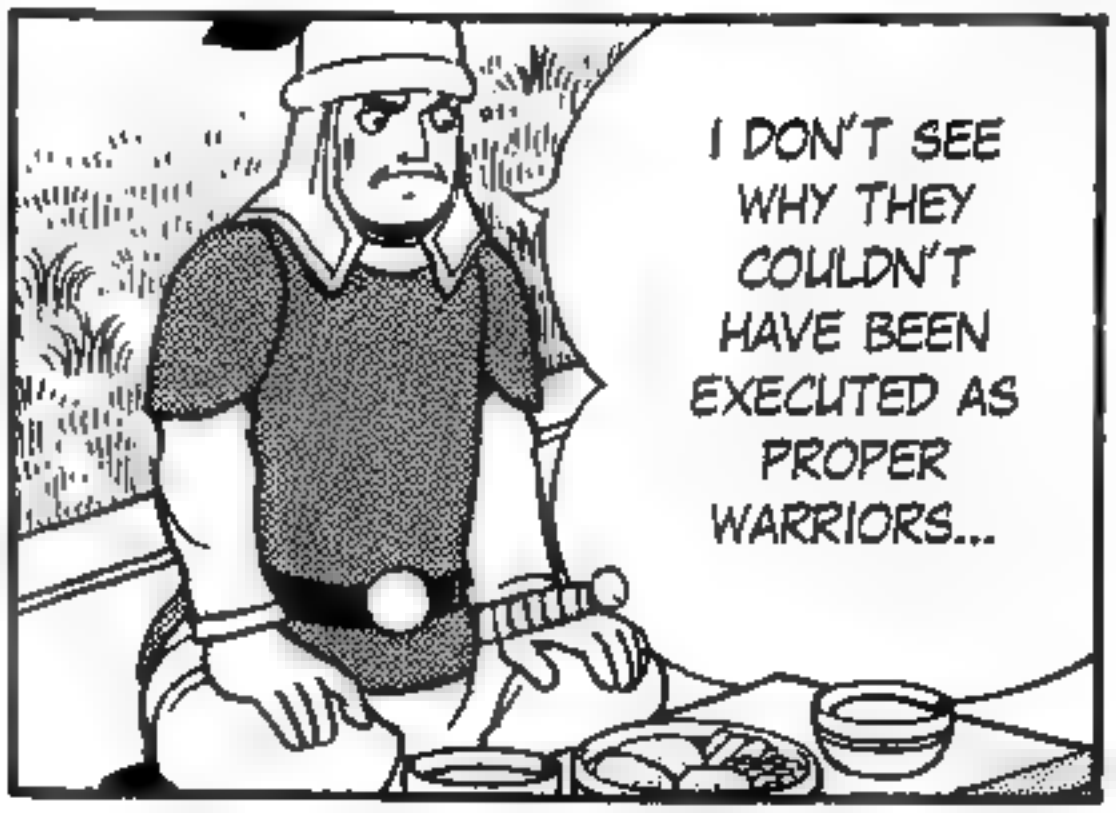
N-NO! ANYTHING BUT THAT! JUST CUT OFF MY HEAD IF YOU WANT!

WE'RE DOOMED...

N-N-NO...
YOU'RE NEXT!






I DON'T SEE WHY THEY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN EXECUTED AS PROPER WARRIORS...

THIS IS TOO MUCH TO BEAR.

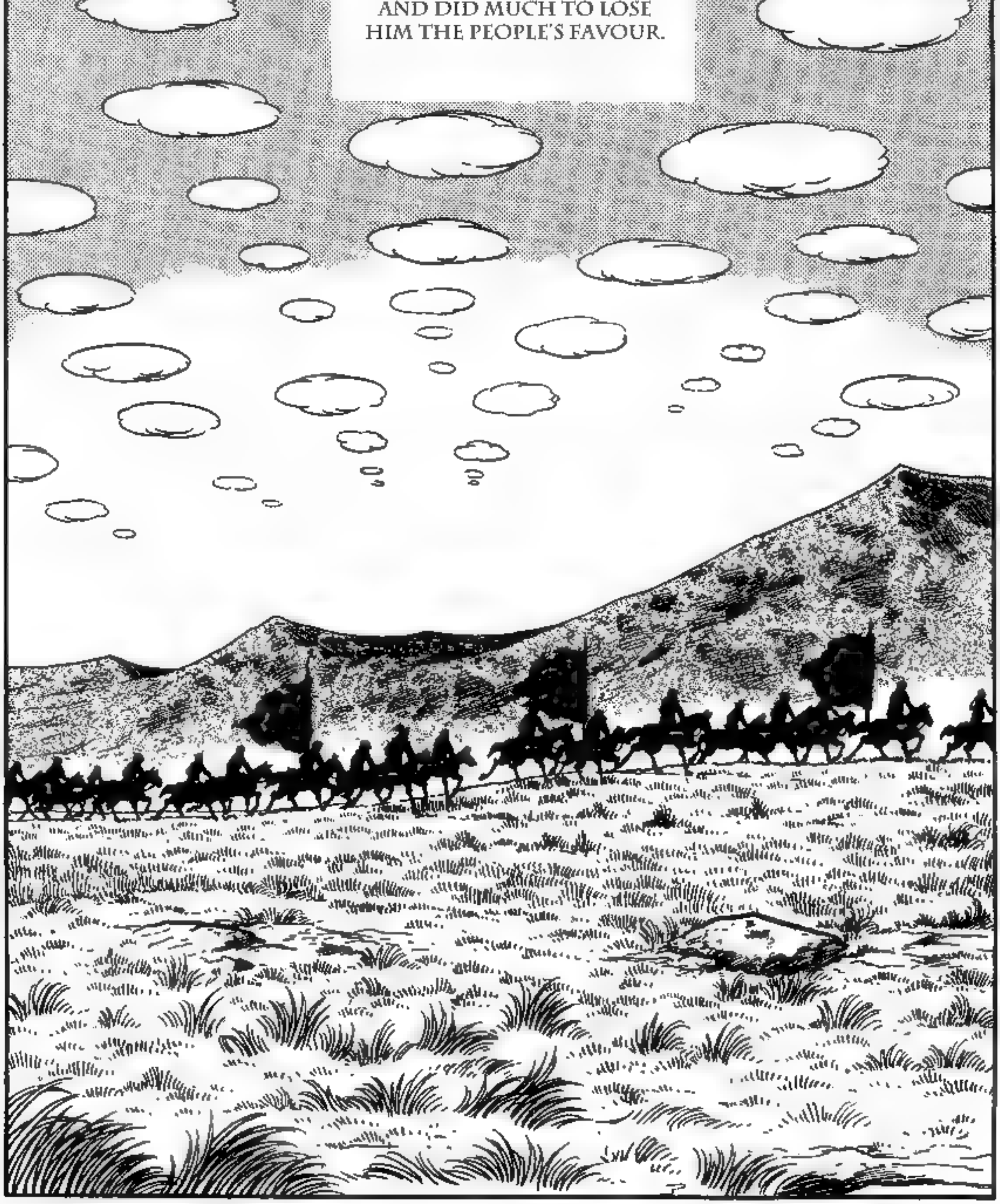
I'M AFRAID WATCHING EXECUTIONS OF THIS MANNER IS NOT TO MY TASTE.

WHAT'S WRONG?

I HOPE YOU WILL EXCUSE US IN RETURN-ING HOME AHEAD OF YOU.

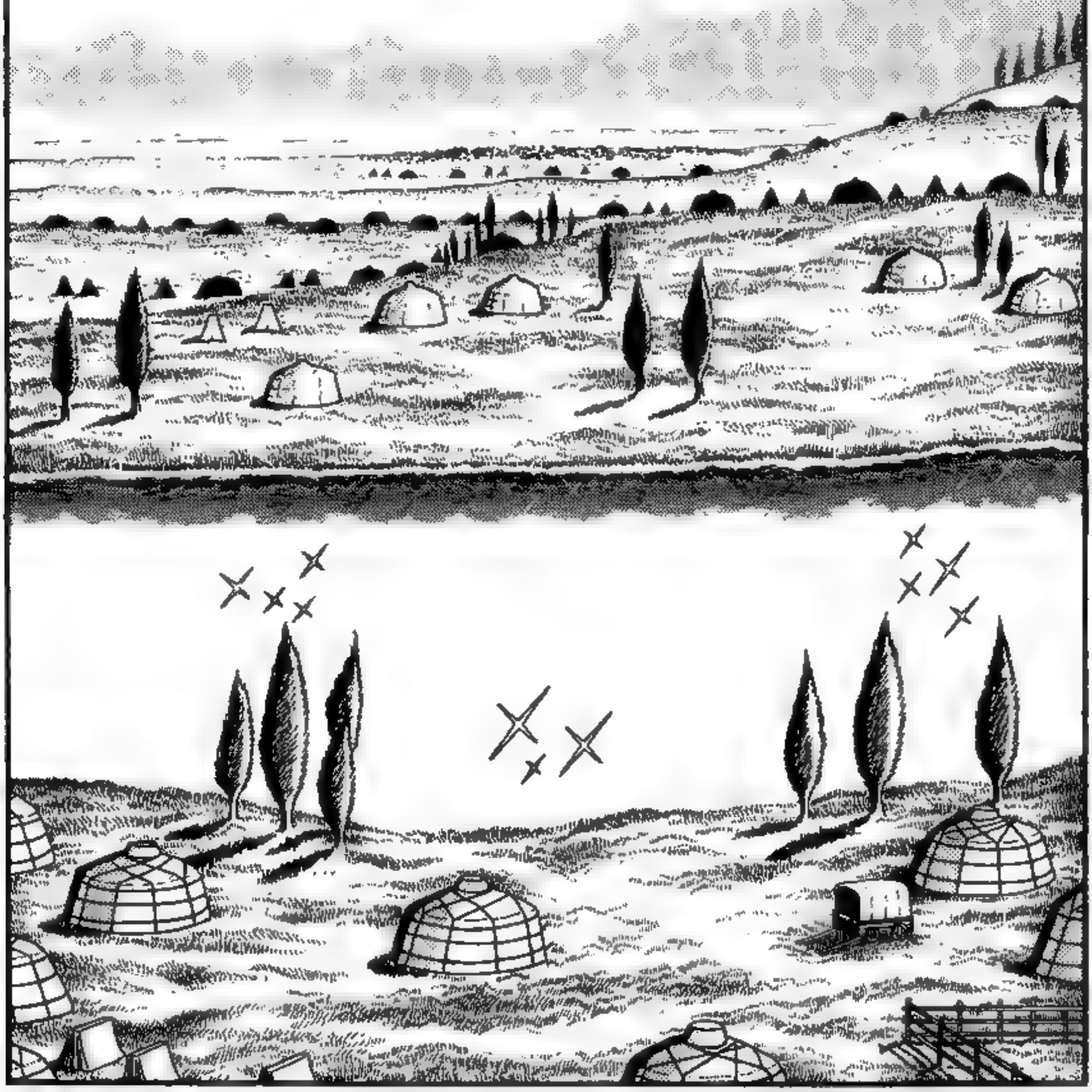
FOR THE STEPPE NOMADS, PROFITING FROM THE PLUNDERING WAS AN ESSENTIAL ASPECT OF WAR. THUS, IN THIS AIR OF SILENT FRUSTRATION AT THE LACK OF PLUNDER, THE DISPLAY OF GRISLY EXECUTIONS ONLY MADE THE SITUATION WORSE FOR SOME, WHO EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE.

THUS, DESPITE JAMUKA'S AMBITION OF BECOMING THE SUPREME KHAN OF THE STEPPE, HIS CRUEL ACT OF BOILING 70 CHINOS PRINCES QUICKLY SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE STEPPE AND DID MUCH TO LOSE HIM THE PEOPLE'S FAVOUR.



Old Foes

ALTHOUGH TEMUCHIN HAD BEEN DEFEATED, THE QUICK DECISION TO RETREAT AND THE FAILURE TO PURSUE BY JAMUKA HAD ALLOWED THE MONGOL CONFEDERATION TO SURVIVE MOSTLY INTACT.



IN FACT, THEIR NUMBERS GREW AGAIN WHEN SEVERAL TRIBES FORMERLY ALLIED UNDER THE JADARAT BANNER DEFECTED TO TEMUCHIN.

THEY HAD ALL BEEN DEEPLY AFFECTED BY THE CRUEL BOILING OF THE CHINOS PRINCES.

AMONG THE NEWCOMERS WAS MÖNGLIK OF THE QONGOTAN AND HIS SEVEN SONS

LONG AGO, WHEN THE TAYICHI'UT SUPPORTERS ABANDONED TEMUCHIN'S FAMILY,

ONE MAN TRIED TO DISSUADE THEM,

AND WAS KILLED.

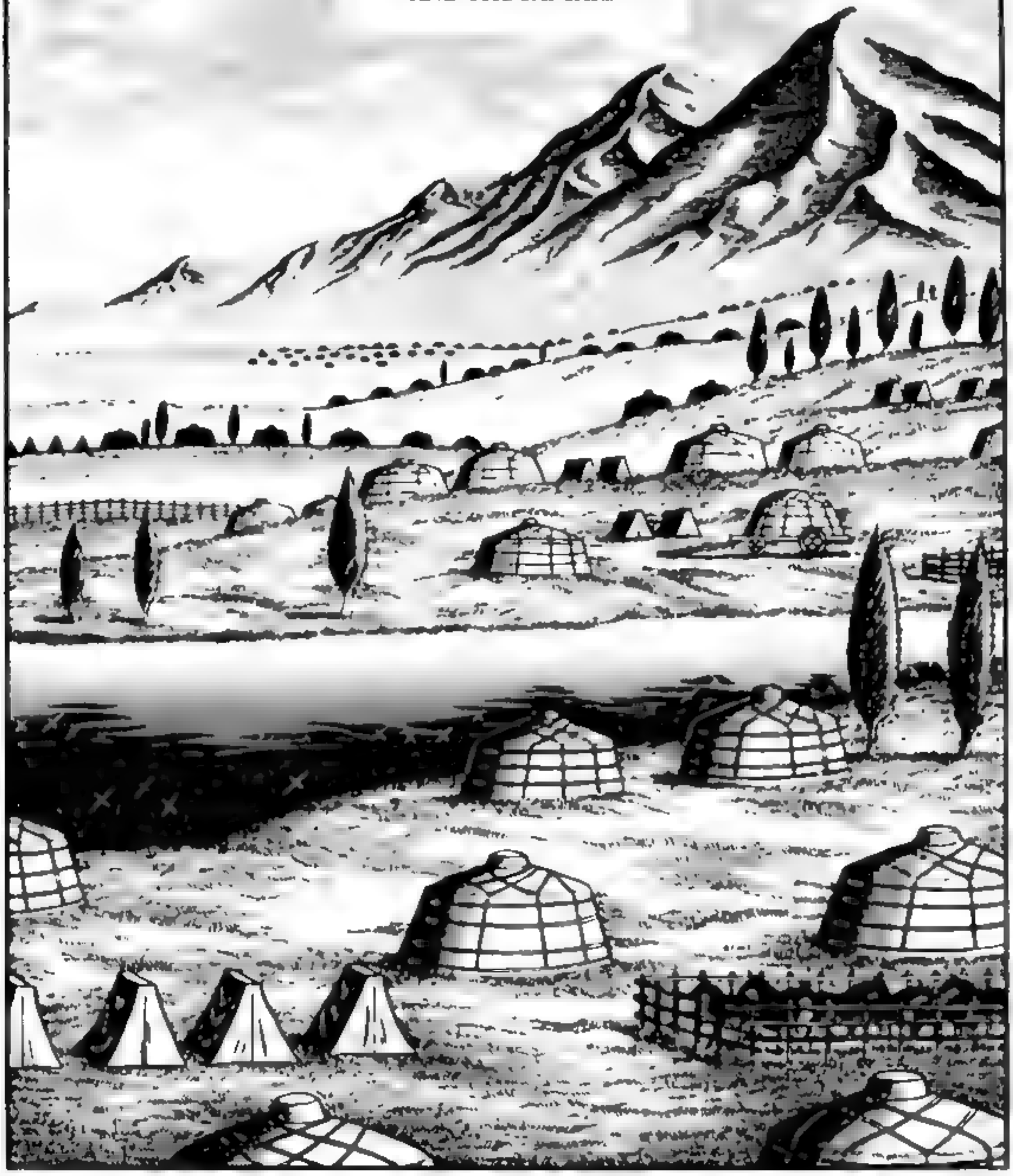
THIS MAN WAS MONGLIK'S FATHER, CHARAKHA.

MÖNGLIK. LONG AGO, YOU JOINED THE TAYICHI'UT IN ABANDONING MY FAMILY. HOWEVER, YOUR FATHER REFUSED TO THROW AWAY HIS LOYALTY TO MY FAMILY EVEN AT THE COST OF HIS LIFE. I HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN HIS SACRIFICE.

THANK YOU, KHAN.

IT IS ONLY BECAUSE OF YOUR FATHER'S LOYALTY THAT I WILL FORGIVE YOUR CRIME AND GRANT YOU THE PERMISSION TO LIVE FREELY HERE WITH YOUR SONS.

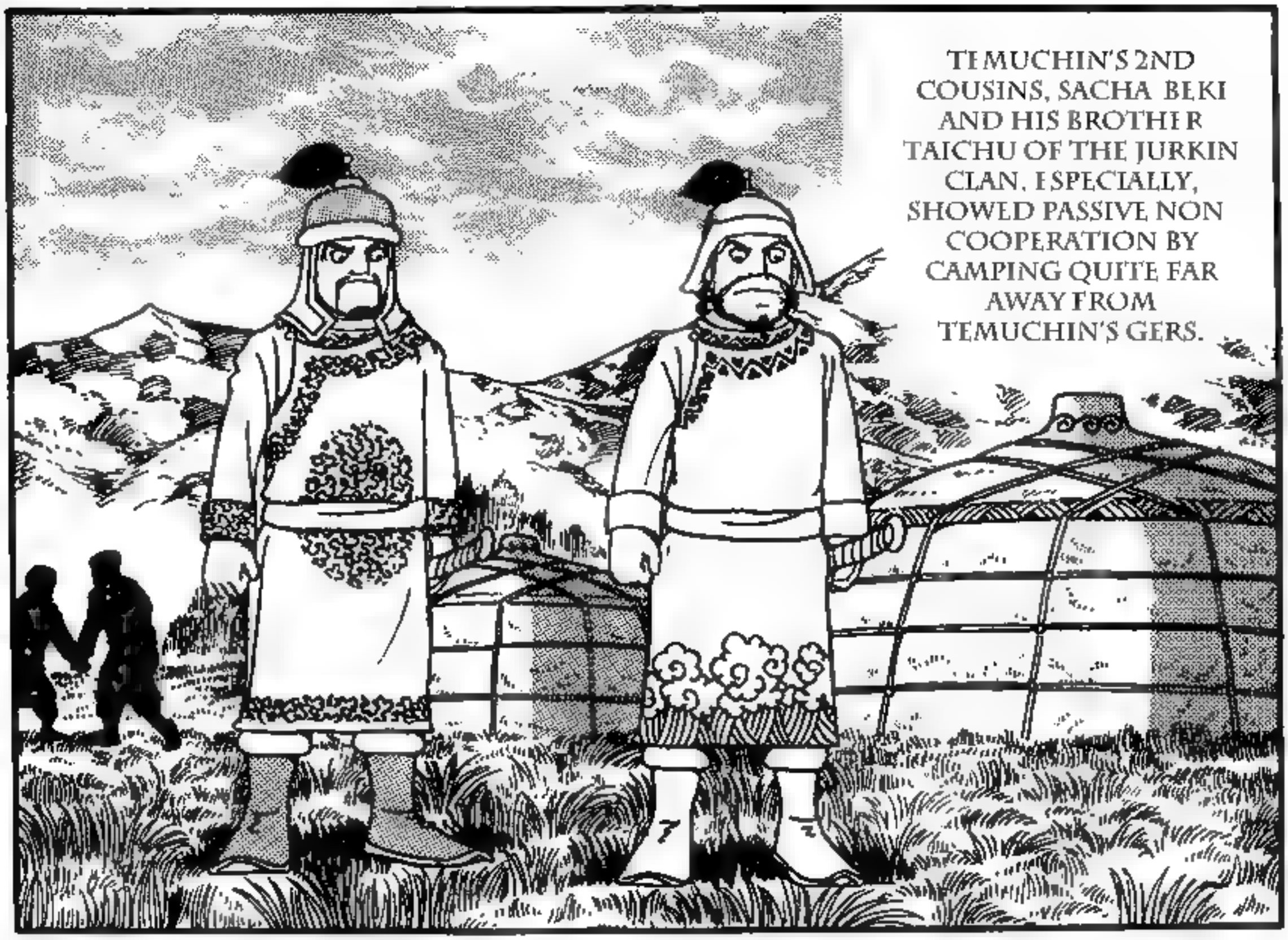
TEMUCHIN'S MONGOL CONFEDERATION THUS CONTINUED TO GROW. THE MONGOLIAN STEPPE WAS NOW DIVIDED INTO 4 MAIN POWERS TOGHRUL KHAN'S KEREITS, JAMUKA'S JADARATS, TEMUCHIN'S MONGOLS, AND THE TARTARS



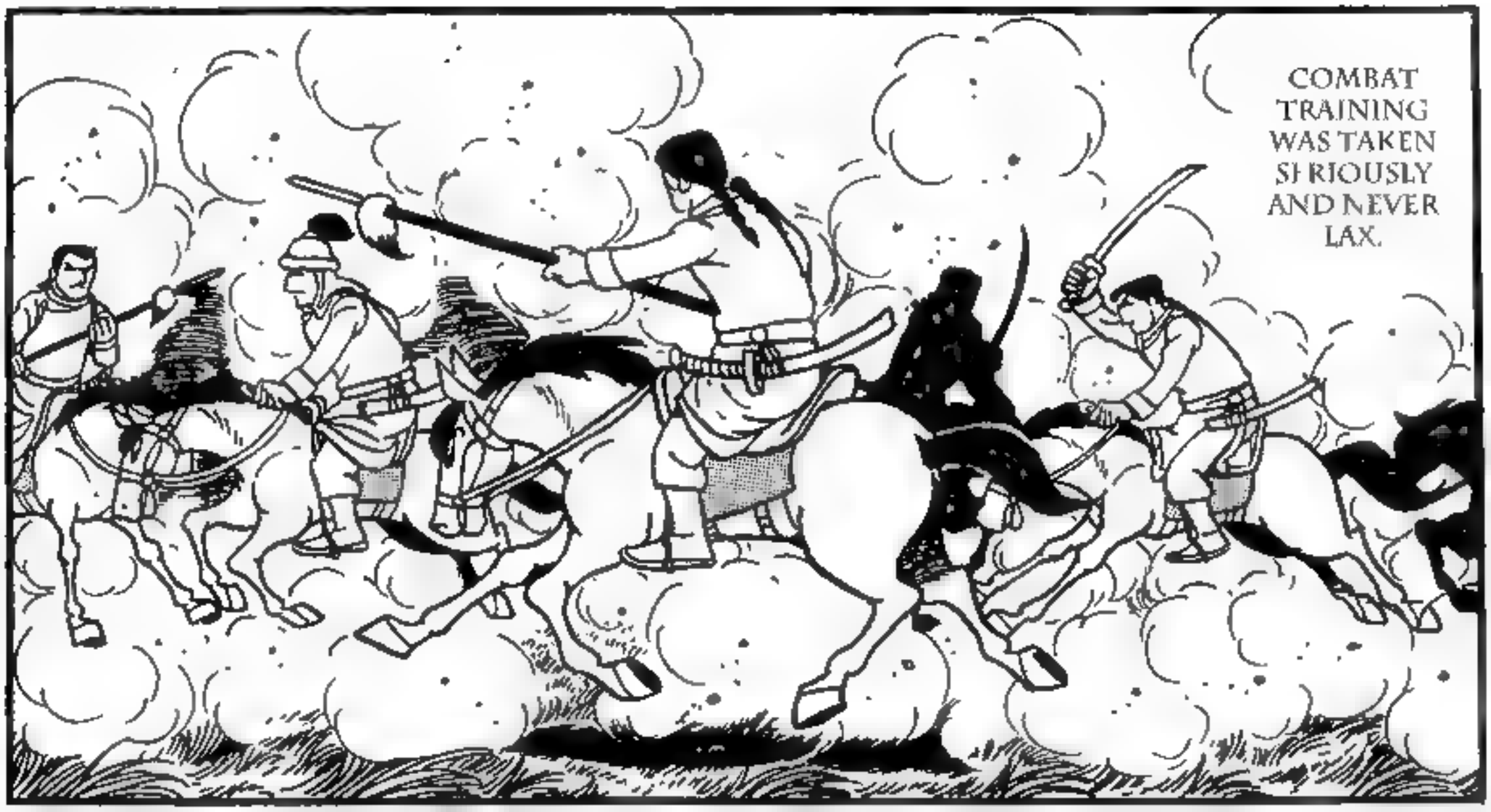
AS HIS FOLLOWERS GREW IN NUMBER, TEMUCHIN'S WORRIES ALSO GREW IN PROPORTION.

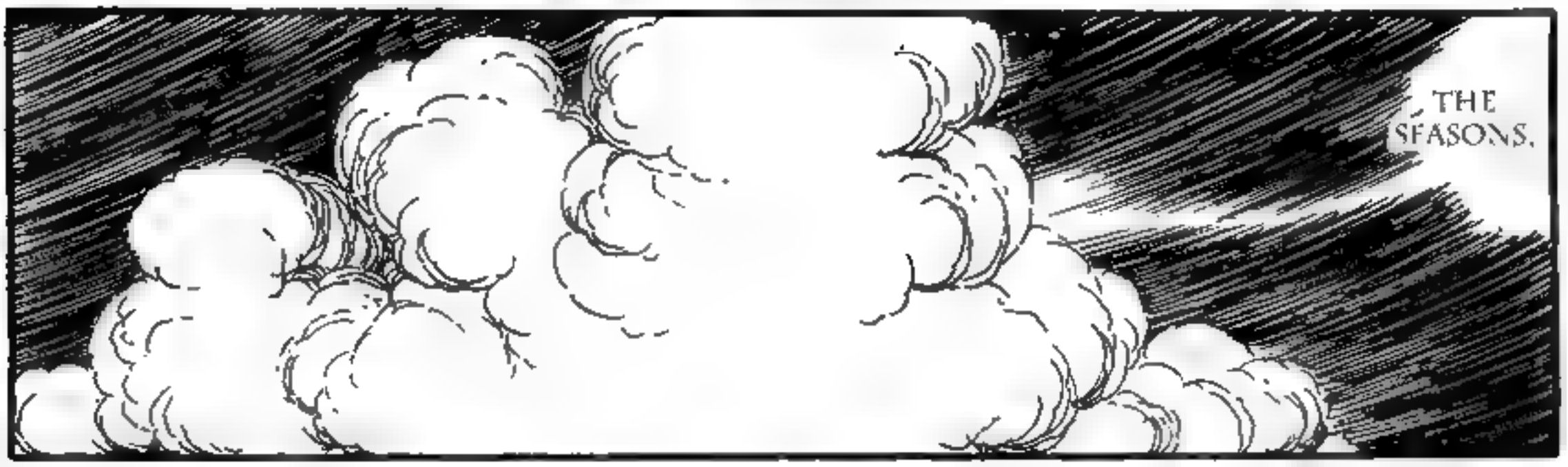
MANY TRIBES IN THE MONGOL CONFEDERATE HAD ONGOING FEUDS AMONG THEM, AND FEW WERE TRULY DEVOTED TO ACCEPTING THE YOUNG TEMUCHIN'S POSITION AS KHAN.

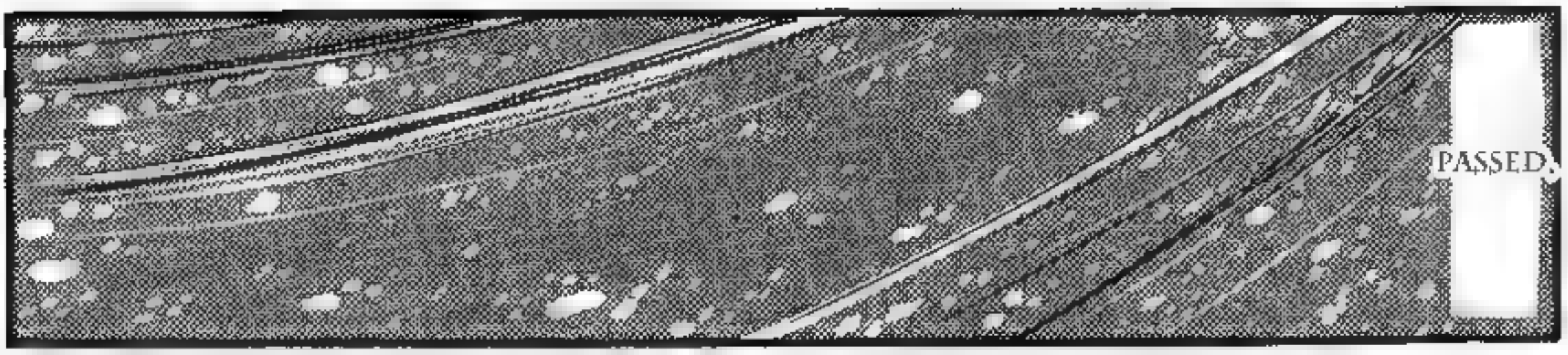
IF THEY SAW A CHANCE, THEY WOULD NOT LIKELY HESITATE TO REPLACE HIM AS KHAN.

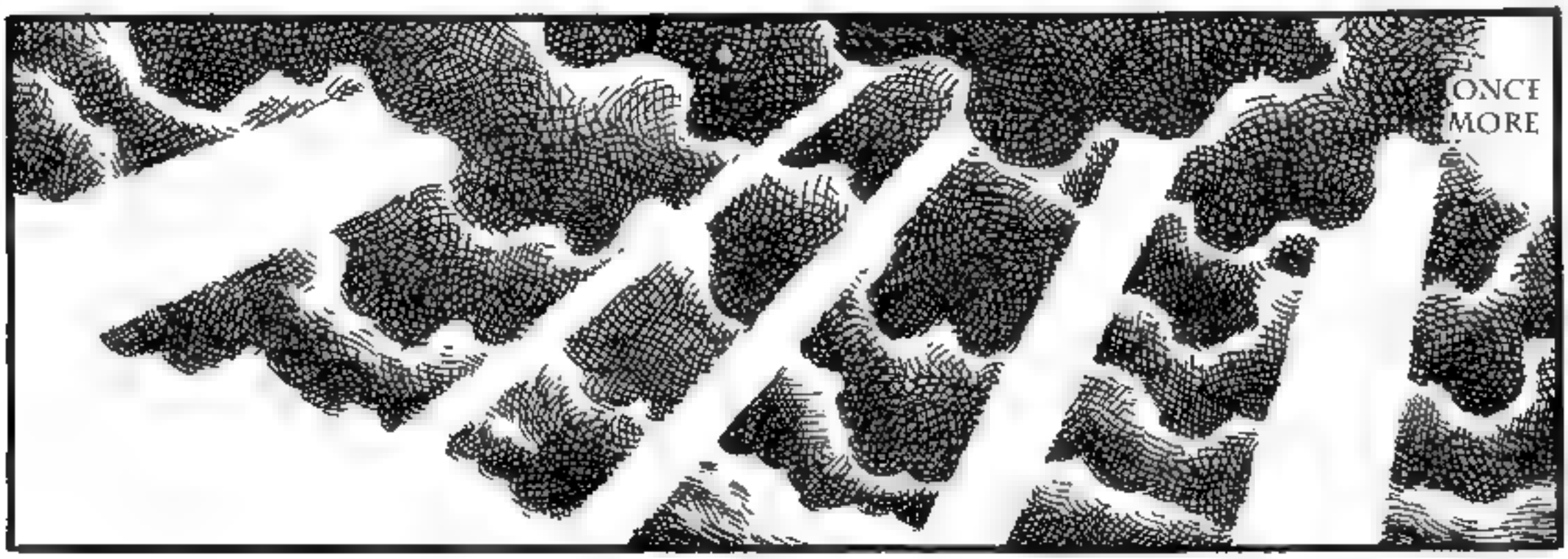

TEMUCHIN'S 2ND COUSINS, SACHA BEKI AND HIS BROTHER TAICHU OF THE JURKIN CLAN, ESPECIALLY, SHOWED PASSIVE NON COOPERATION BY CAMPING QUITE FAR AWAY FROM TEMUCHIN'S GERS.
7

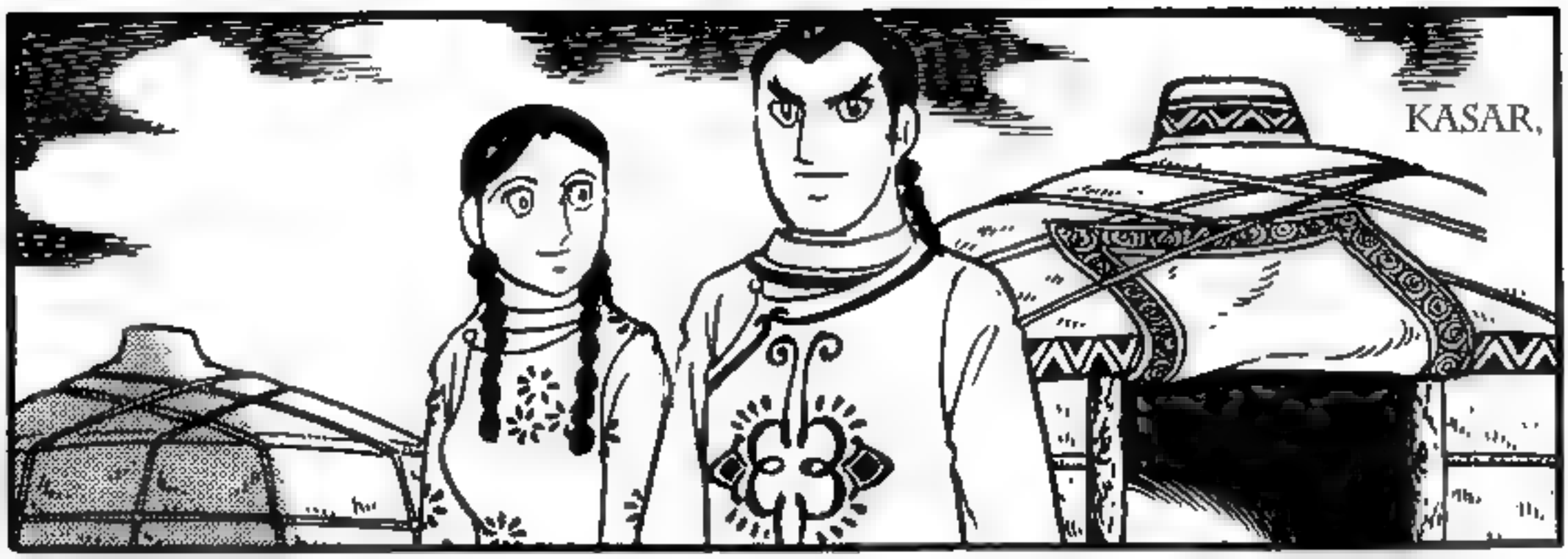
TEMUCHIN ENDURED THIS SILENT HOSTIL ITY FOR THE TIME BEING AND WORKED ON STRENGTHEN ING HIS POWER


COMBAT
TRAINING
WAS TAKEN
SERIOUSLY
AND NEVER
LAX.


THE
SEASONS.

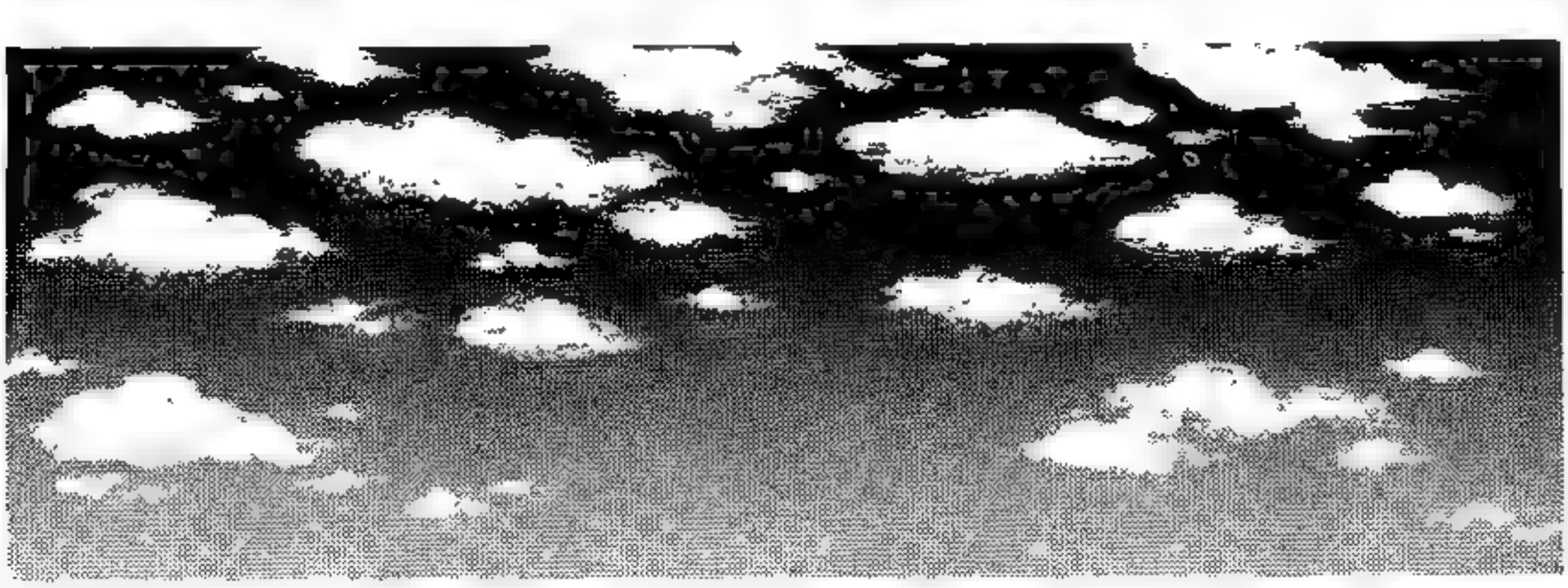

PASSED.

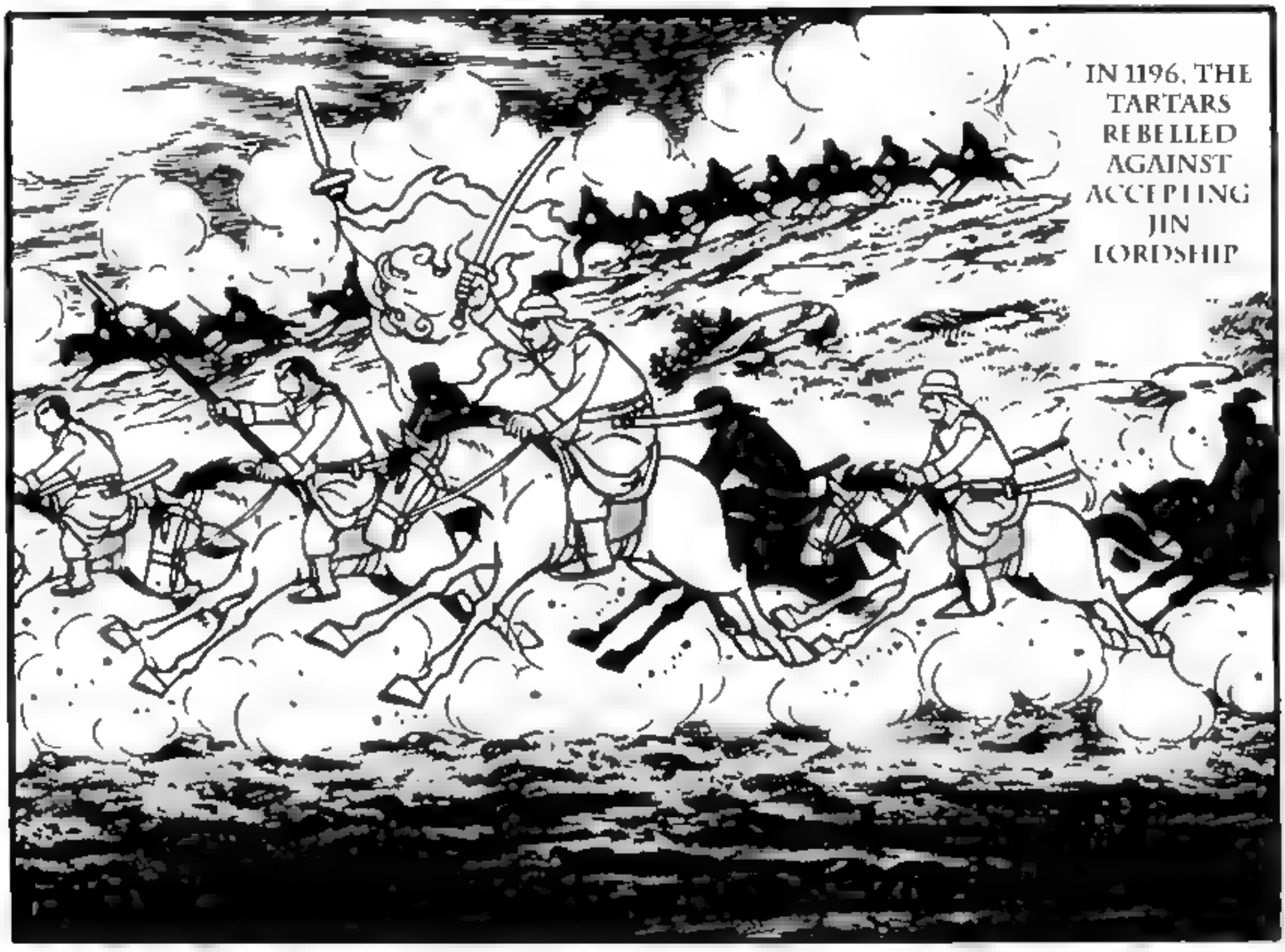

ONCE
MORE

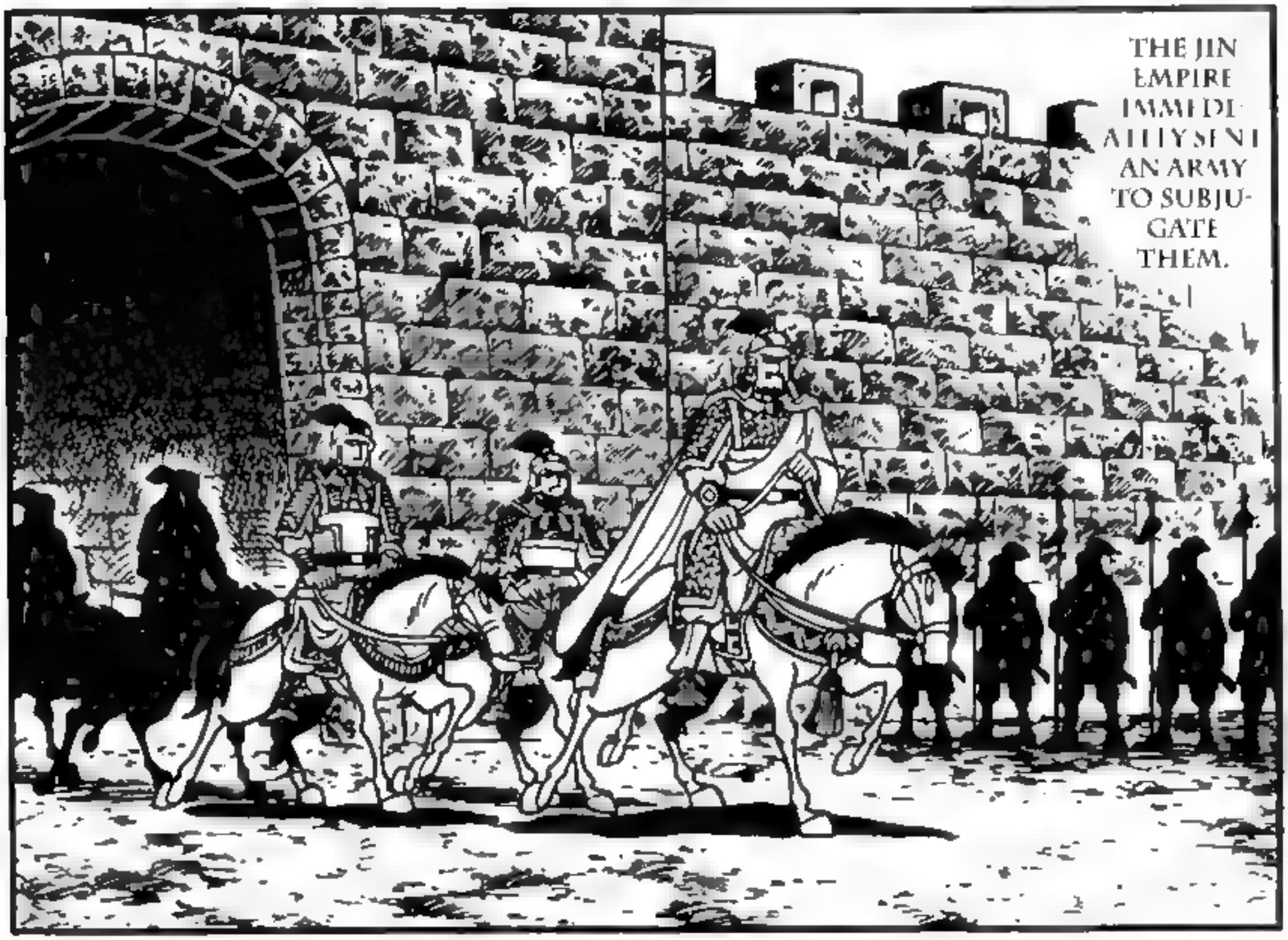

KASAR,

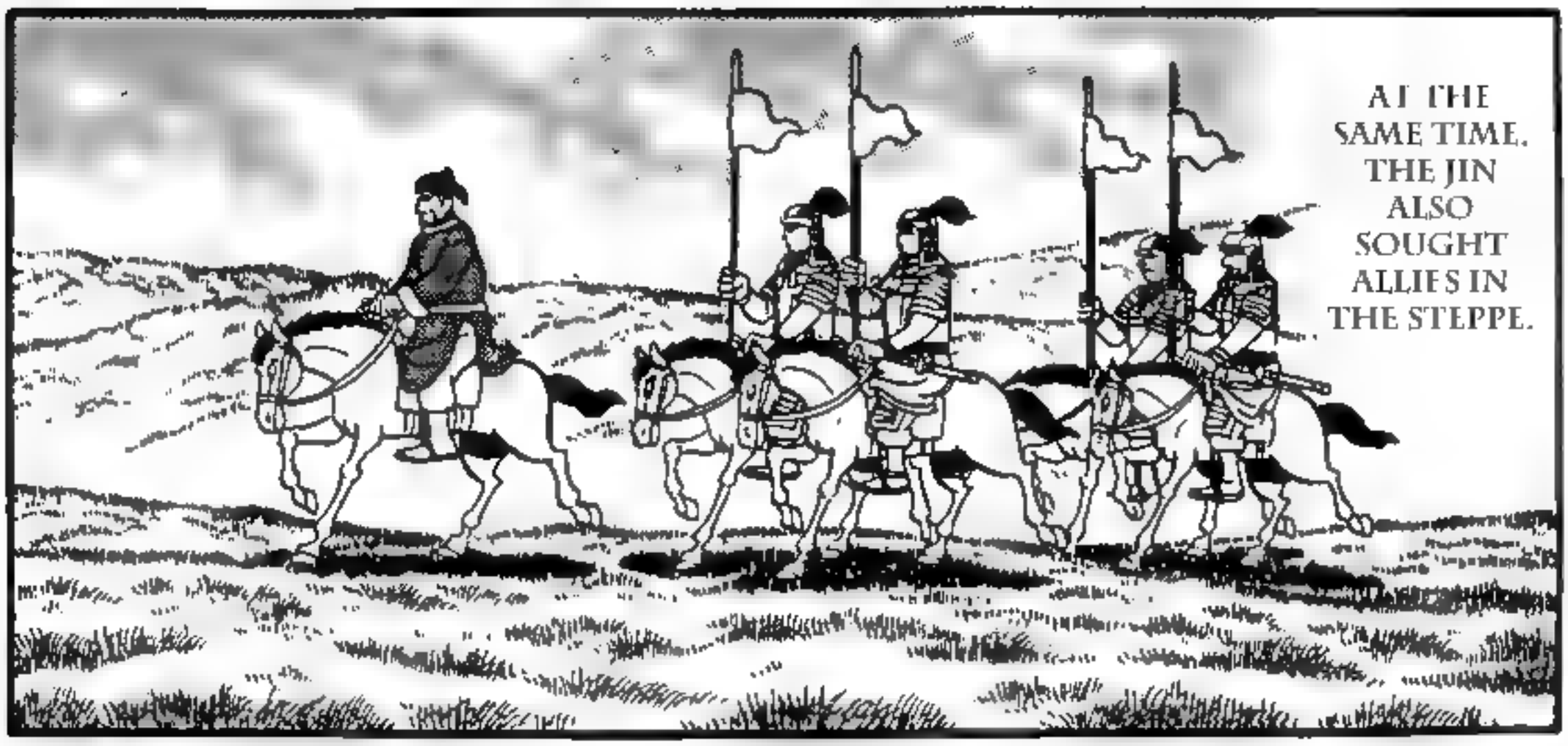
KACHUN,

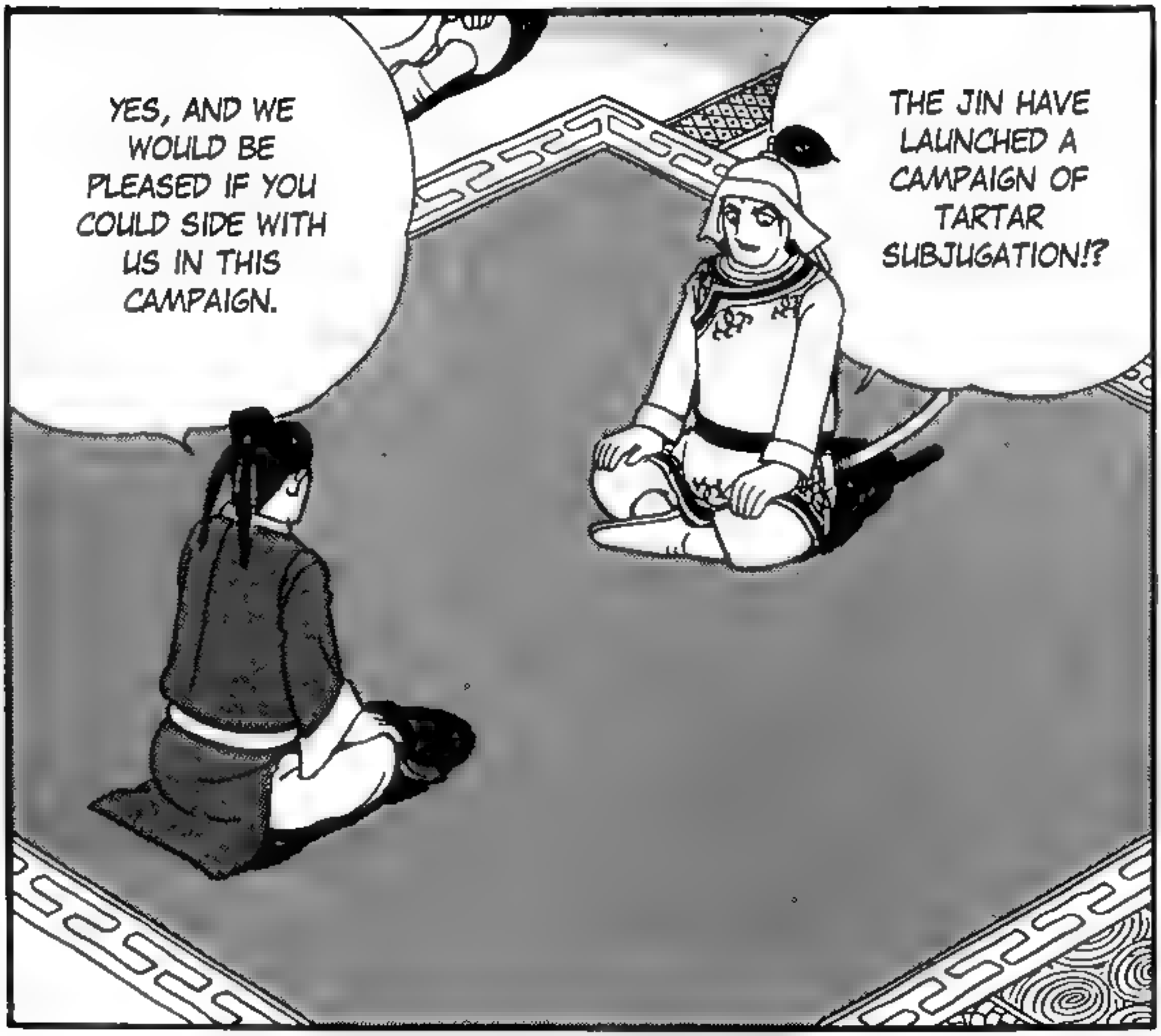
AND TEMUGE HAD ALL TAKEN WIVES BY NOW.




IN 1196, THE TARTARS REBELLED AGAINST ACCEPTING JIN LORDSHIP


THE JIN EMPIRE IMMEDIATELY SENT AN ARMY TO SUBJUGATE THEM.


AT THE SAME TIME, THE JIN ALSO SOUGHT ALLIES IN THE STEPPE.


YES, AND WE WOULD BE PLEASED IF YOU COULD SIDE WITH US IN THIS CAMPAIGN.
THE JIN HAVE LAUNCHED A CAMPAIGN OF TARTAR SUBJUGATION!?

YES, I KNOW THAT VERY WELL, FOR MY FATHER NAMED ME AFTER ONE OF THE TARTAR CHIEFS TAKEN CAPTIVE.

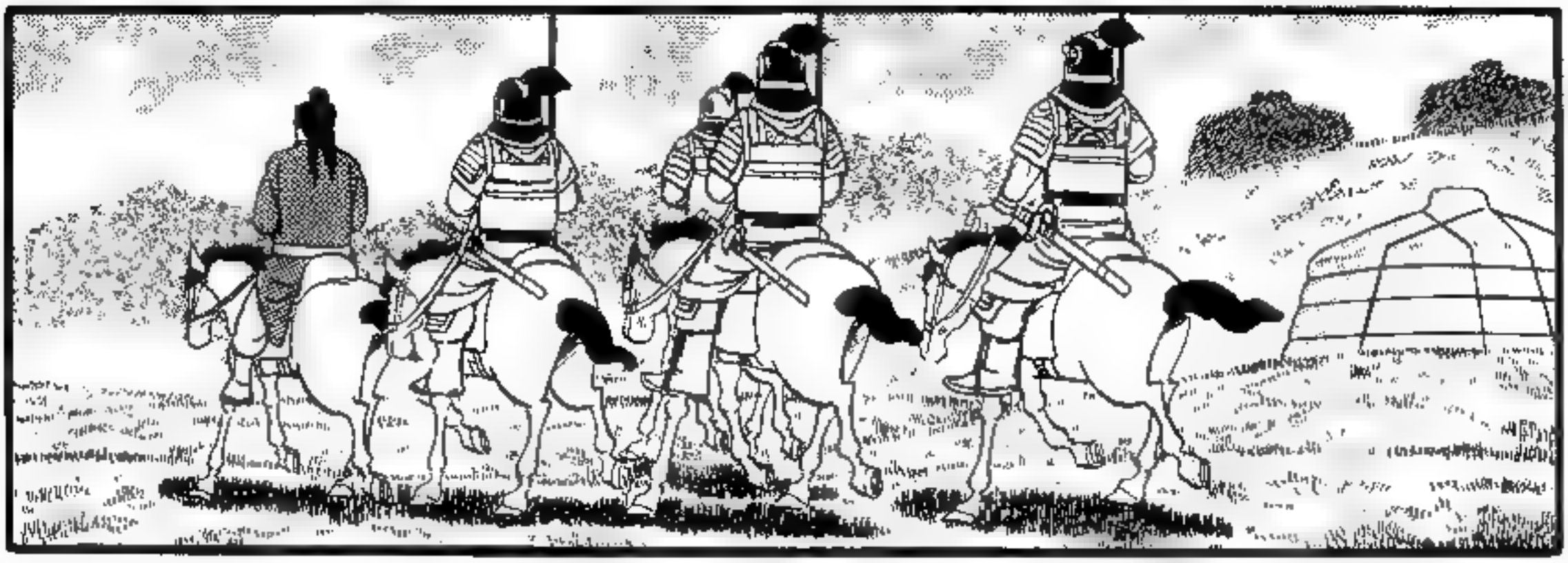
YOUR LATE FATHER YISUGEI ALSO PARTICIPATED IN OUR PREVIOUS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TARTARS.

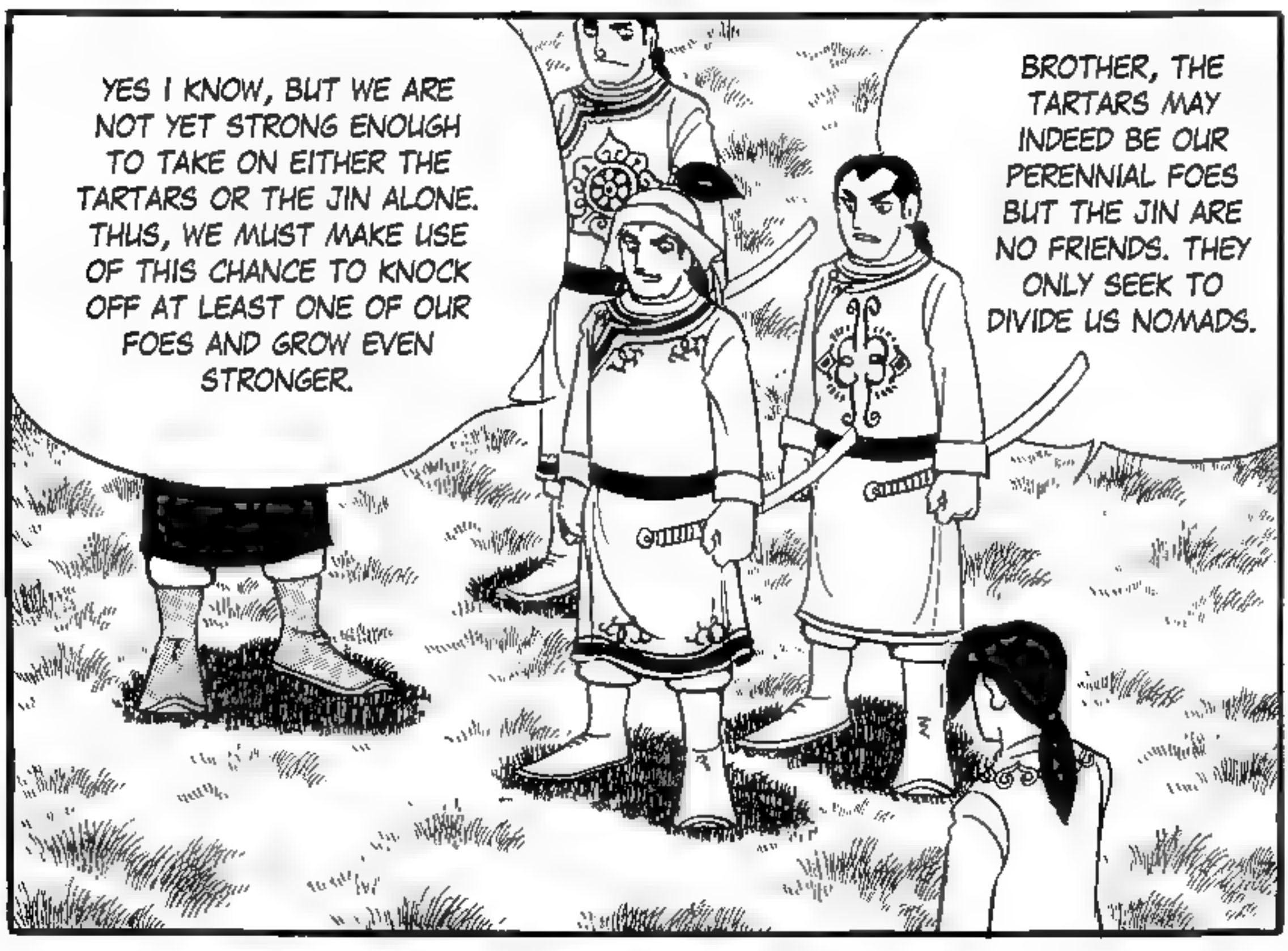
YES IT IS.

THE TARTARS ARE YOUR PERENNIAL FOES, ARE THEY NOT? I BELIEVE THIS IS A FINE OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO WORK TOGETHER FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT.

THANK YOU, KHAN.

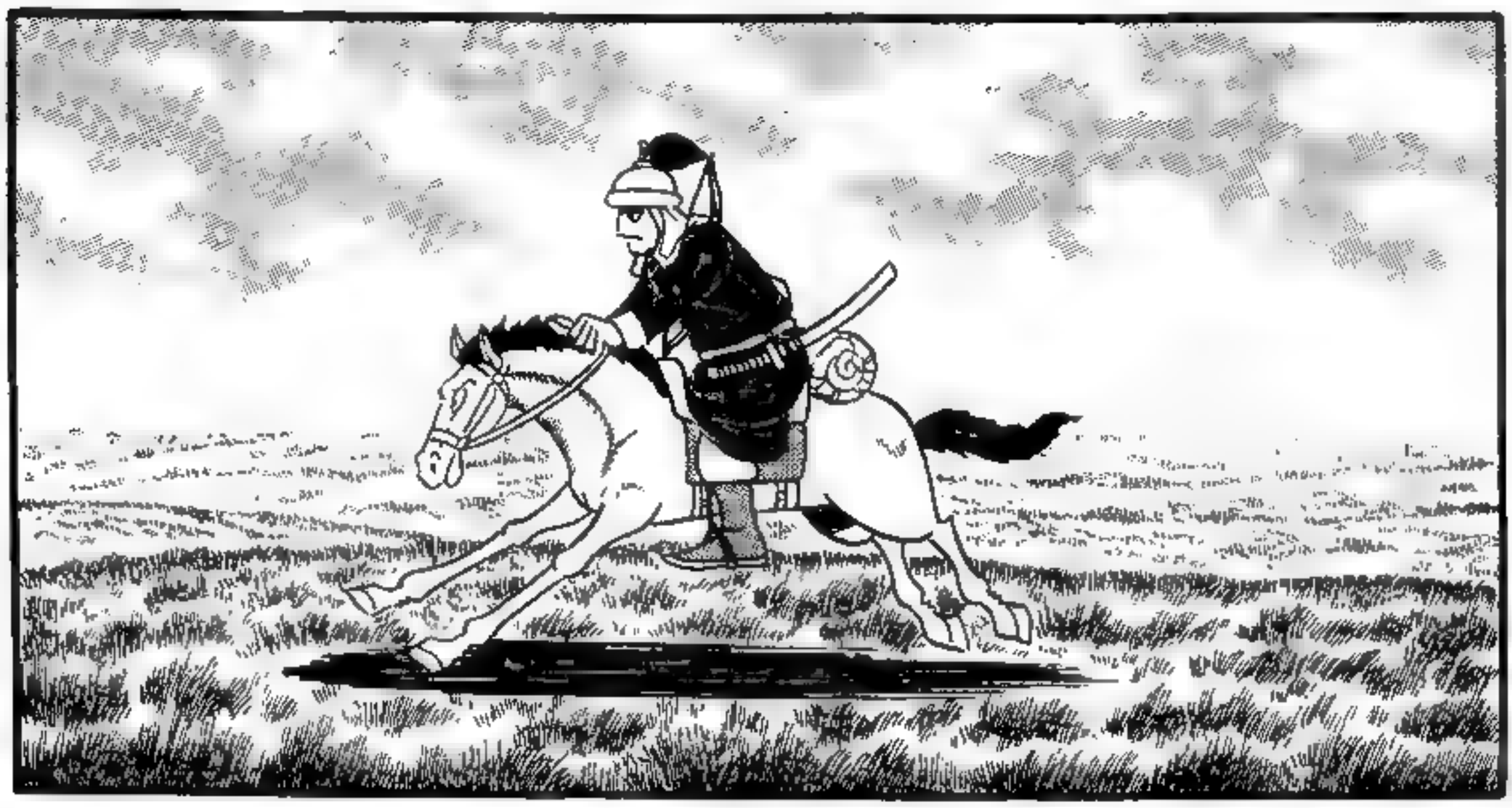
I GIVE YOU MY WORD THAT WE MONGOLS WILL SIDE WITH YOU IN THE UPCOMING BATTLE.

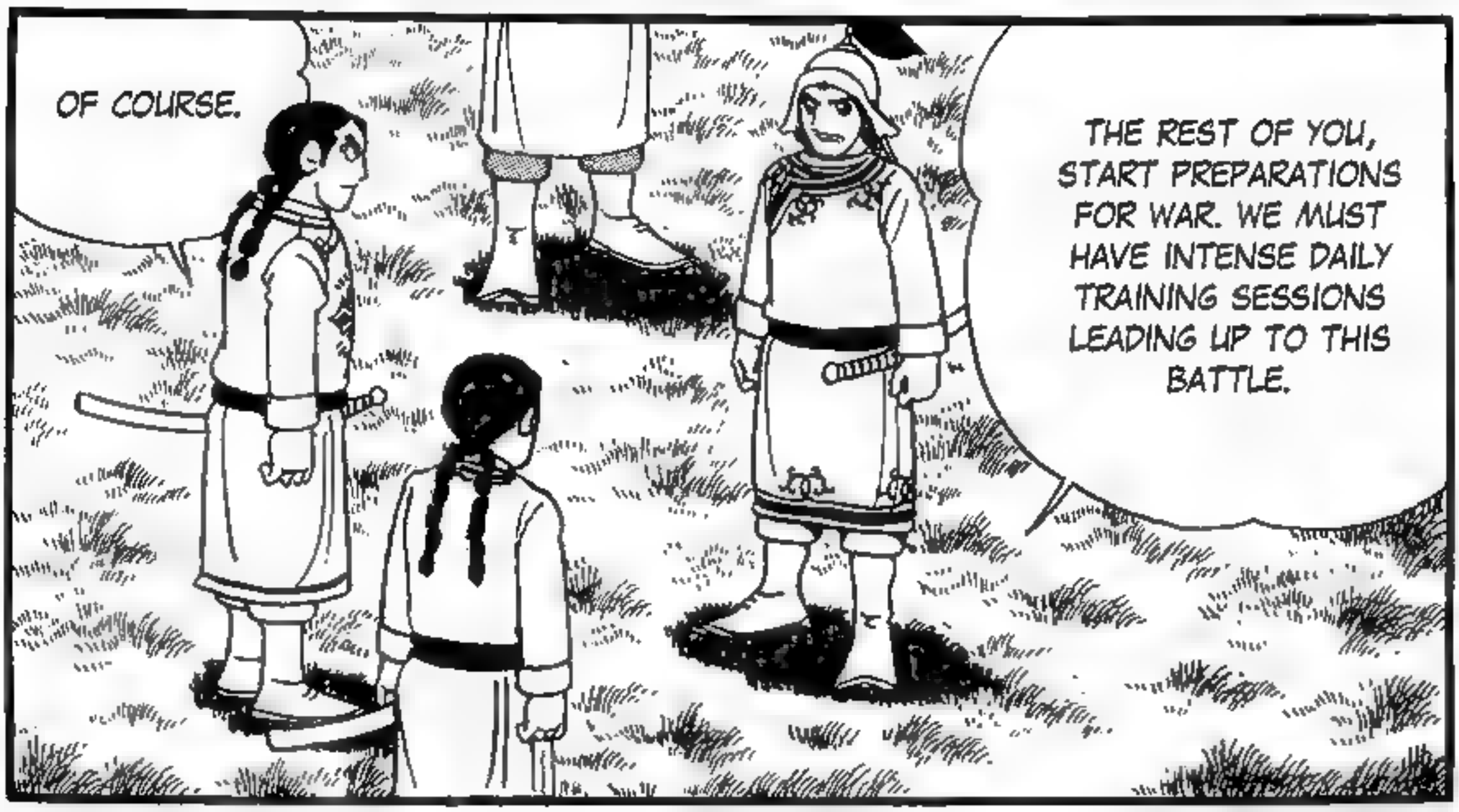



YES I KNOW, BUT WE ARE NOT YET STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE ON EITHER THE TARTARS OR THE JIN ALONE. THUS, WE MUST MAKE USE OF THIS CHANCE TO KNOCK OFF AT LEAST ONE OF OUR FOES AND GROW EVEN STRONGER.
BROTHER, THE TARTARS MAY INDEED BE OUR PERENNIAL FOES BUT THE JIN ARE NO FRIENDS. THEY ONLY SEEK TO DIVIDE US NOMADS.

YES, GOOD IDEA.
PROFITING ALONE FROM THIS WAR WILL SURELY EVOKE JEALOUSY FROM OTHER TRIBES. WE SHOULD AT LEAST ASK TOGHRUL KHAN TO ACCOMPANY US.

YES.
BELGUTEI, GO TO THE KEREITS AND ASK THEIR KHAN IF THEY WISH TO ACCOMPANY US.




OF COURSE.
THE REST OF YOU, START PREPARATIONS FOR WAR. WE MUST HAVE INTENSE DAILY TRAINING SESSIONS LEADING UP TO THIS BATTLE.

KEREIT CAMPS

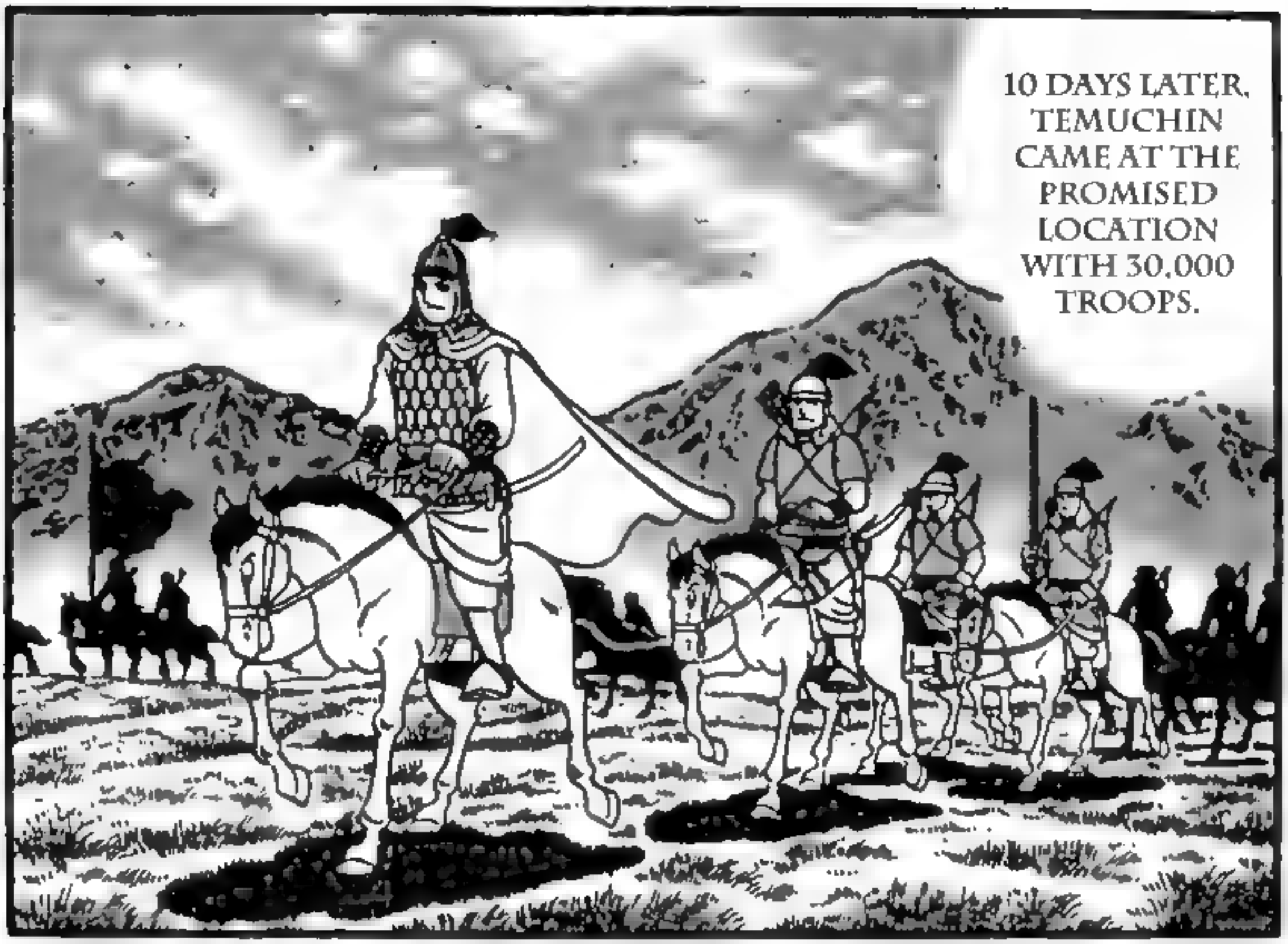
YES, AND MY KHAN WISHES YOU WILL ALSO JOIN HIM IN VANQUISHING THE WRETCHED TARTARS.

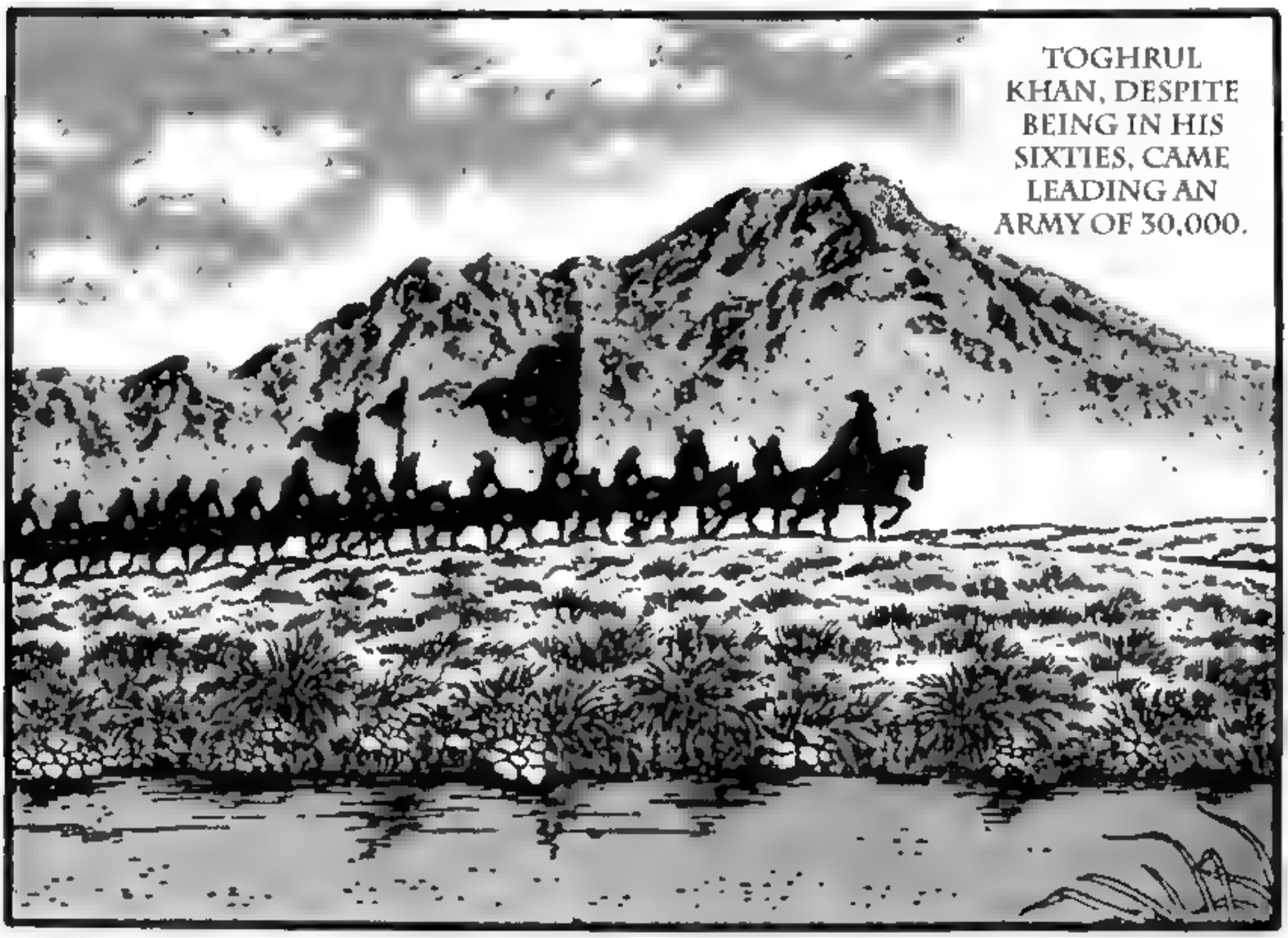
THE JIN WILL CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TARTARS?

TARTARS VERSUS THE COMBINED FORCES OF JIN, MONGOLS, AND MY KEREITS...? THIS WILL SURELY BE AN EASY VICTORY WITH MUCH PLUNDER...

YES, I WILL DELIVER YOUR MESSAGE.

VERY WELL. TELL TEMUCHIN THAT I WILL MEET HIS ARMY WITH MINE WHERE THE KERULEN AND ULJA RIVERS MEET.


10 DAYS LATER, TEMUCHIN CAME AT THE PROMISED LOCATION WITH 30,000 TROOPS.


TOGHRUL KHAN, DESPITE BEING IN HIS SIXTIES, CAME LEADING AN ARMY OF 30,000.

TEMUCHIN, PROMISE ME ONE THING BEFORE THE BATTLE.

THE TIME HAS COME TO PUNISH THE TARTARS, WHO HAVE SHED THE BLOOD OF OUR ANCESTORS FOR GENERATIONS. WITH OUR COMBINED MIGHT, VICTORY WILL SURELY BE OURS.

LONG AGO, WHEN YOUR FATHER AND I ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE JIN CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TARTARS, WE HELD BACK FROM EXTERMINATING THE TARTARS. IT WAS OUR LENIENCE THAT ALLOWED THEM TO GROW INTO A THREAT AGAIN.

WHAT IS IT, TOGHRUL KHAN?

VERY WELL.

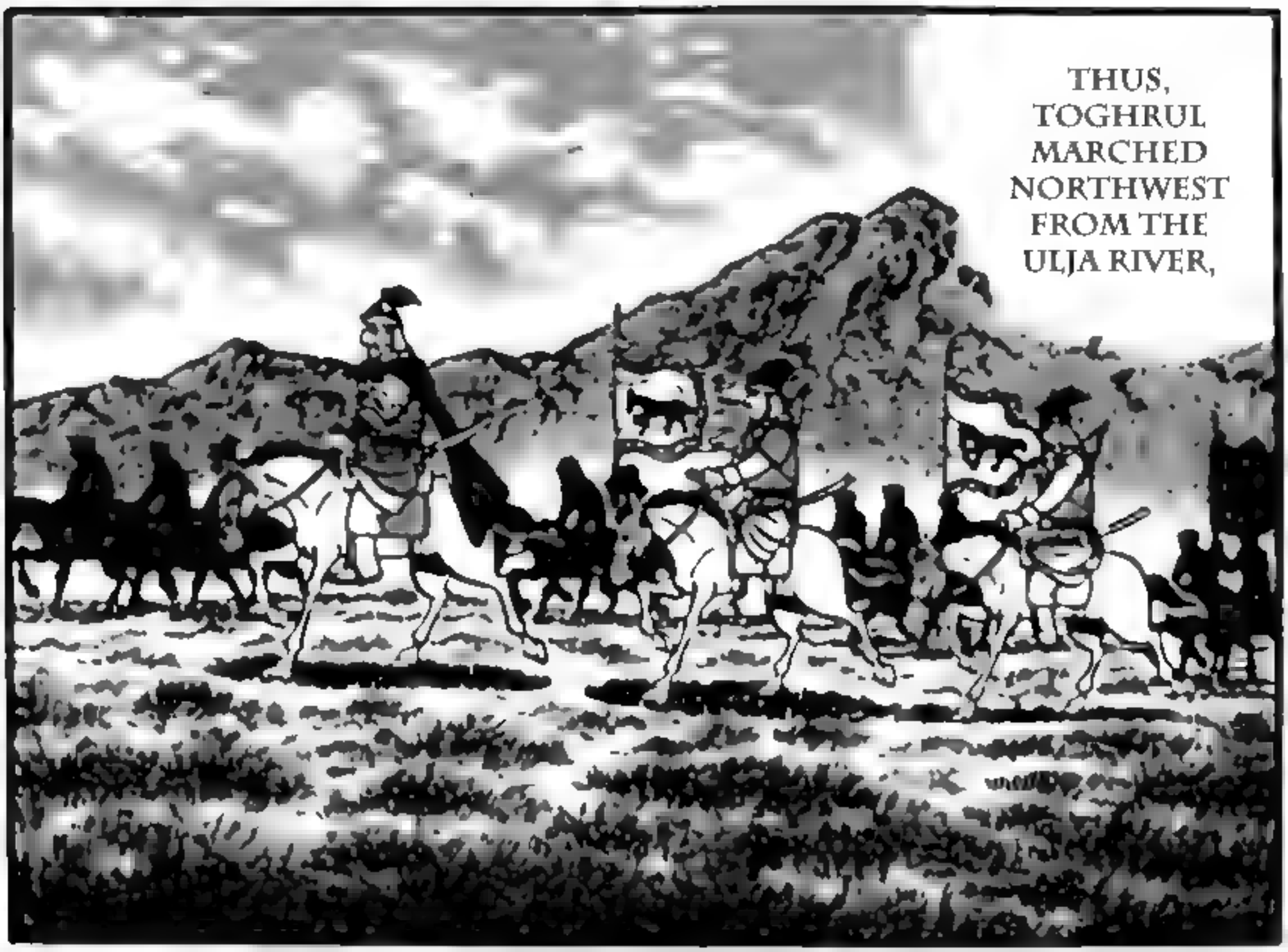
BUT THIS TIME, WE WILL KILL EVERY TARTAR MALE AND DIVIDE THEIR WOMEN AND LIVESTOCK EVENLY BETWEEN US.

OF COURSE, I PROMISE.

AND AFTER THE DIVISION OF LOOT, WE WILL BOTH WITHDRAW THREE DAYS AFTER. CAN YOU PROMISE ME ALL THAT?

AND I WILL ATTACK FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

GOOD, THEN I WILL ATTACK FROM THE NORTHWEST.


THUS, TOGHRUL MARCHED NORTHWEST FROM THE ULJA RIVER,

WHILE TEMUCHIN HEADED SOUTHWEST.

WHAT!?

TEMUCHIN. YOUR COUSINS SACHA-BEKI, HIS BROTHER TAICHU, AND THEIR JURKIN CLAN HAVE YET TO RESPOND TO OUR CALL FOR BATTLE.

YES. TWICE, IN FACT.

YOU DID GIVE THEM THE MESSAGE, RIGHT?

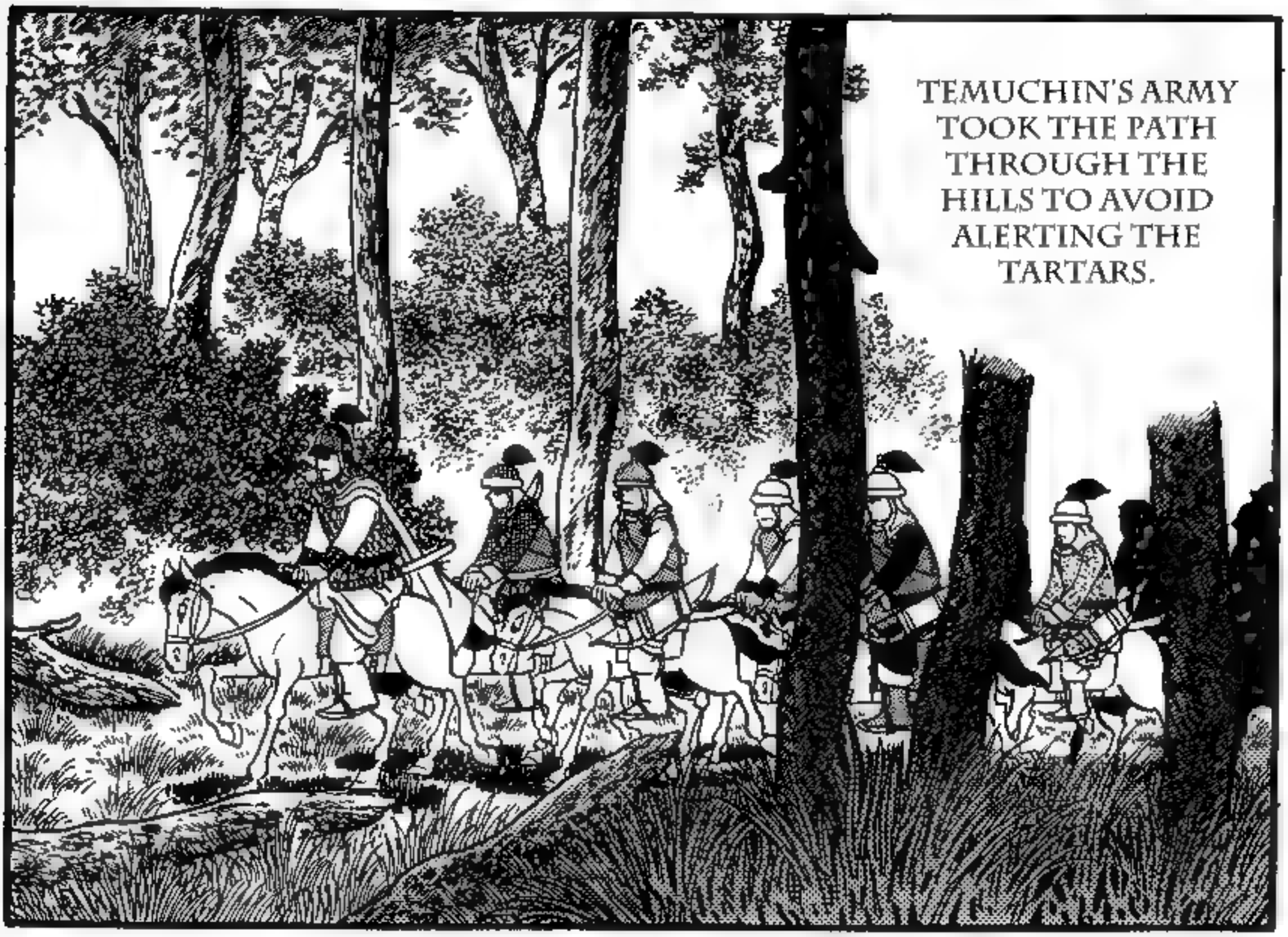
THEY SHOULD DESPISE THE TARTARS JUST AS MUCH AS US. I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE DOING...?

THE CAMPAIGN HAS ALREADY COMMENCED. IT IS TOO LATE TO WAIT FOR THEM.

THEY'RE CLEARLY AIMING FOR THE POSITION OF KHAN. IF WE RETURN WITH ANYTHING MORE THAN MINOR CASUALTIES, THEY'LL SURELY SAY OUR BROTHER IS UNFIT TO BE KHAN.

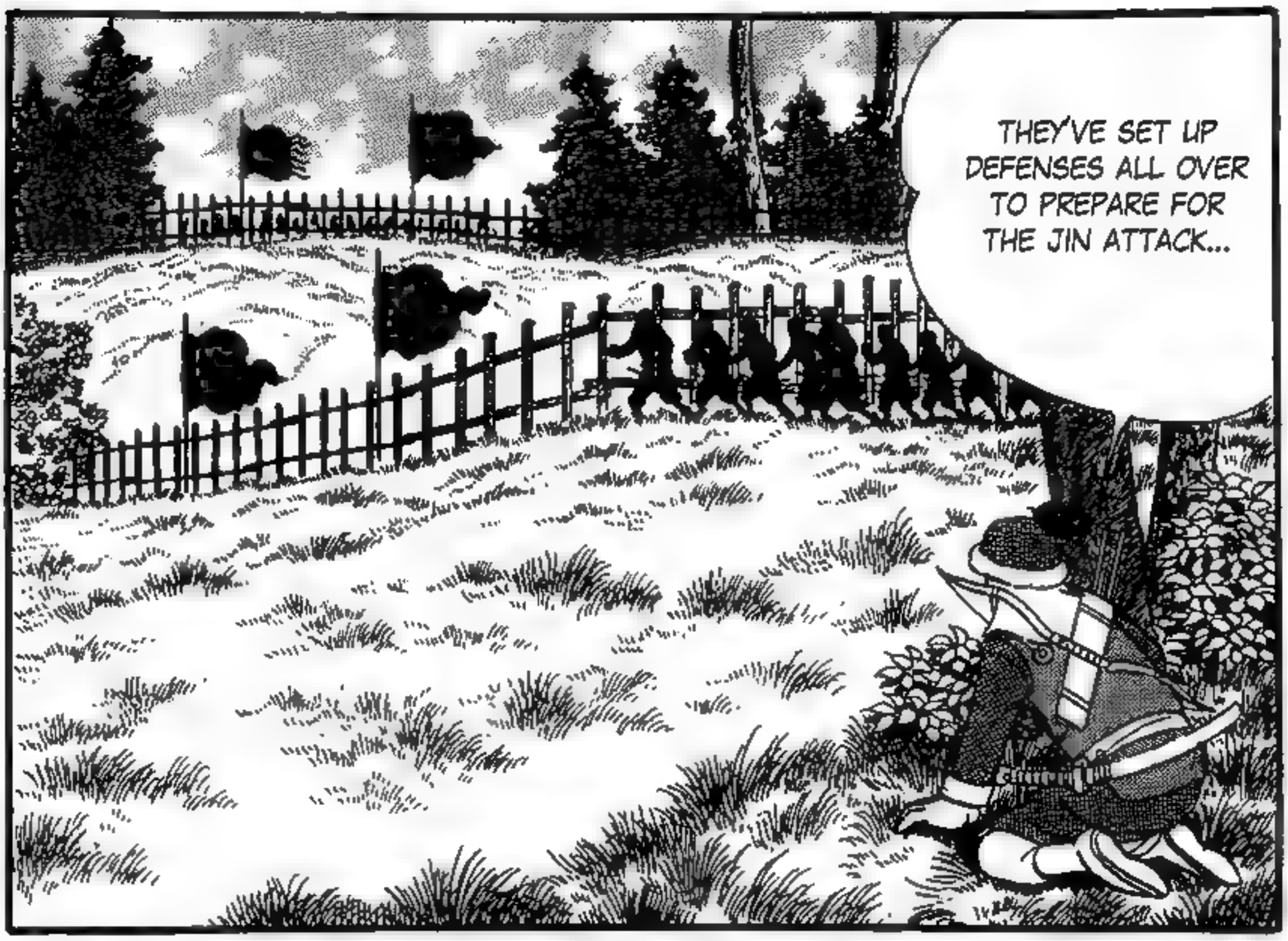
YES...

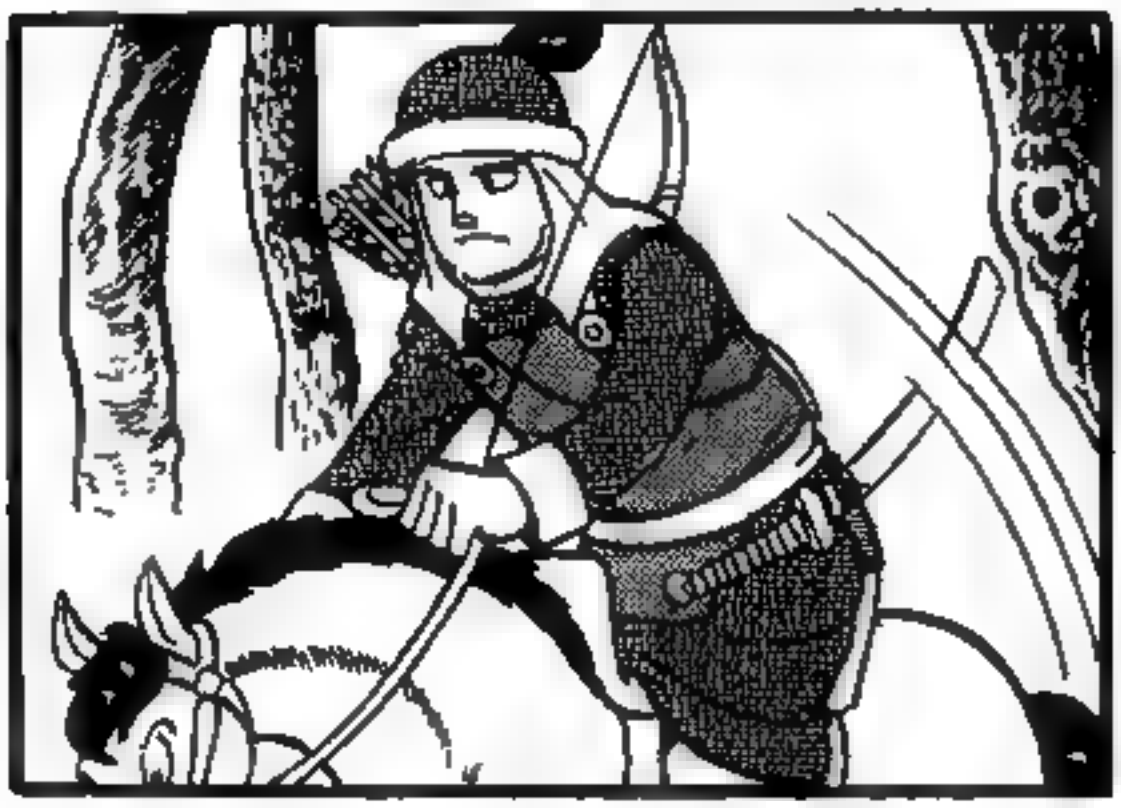
SILENCE, BELGUTEI!

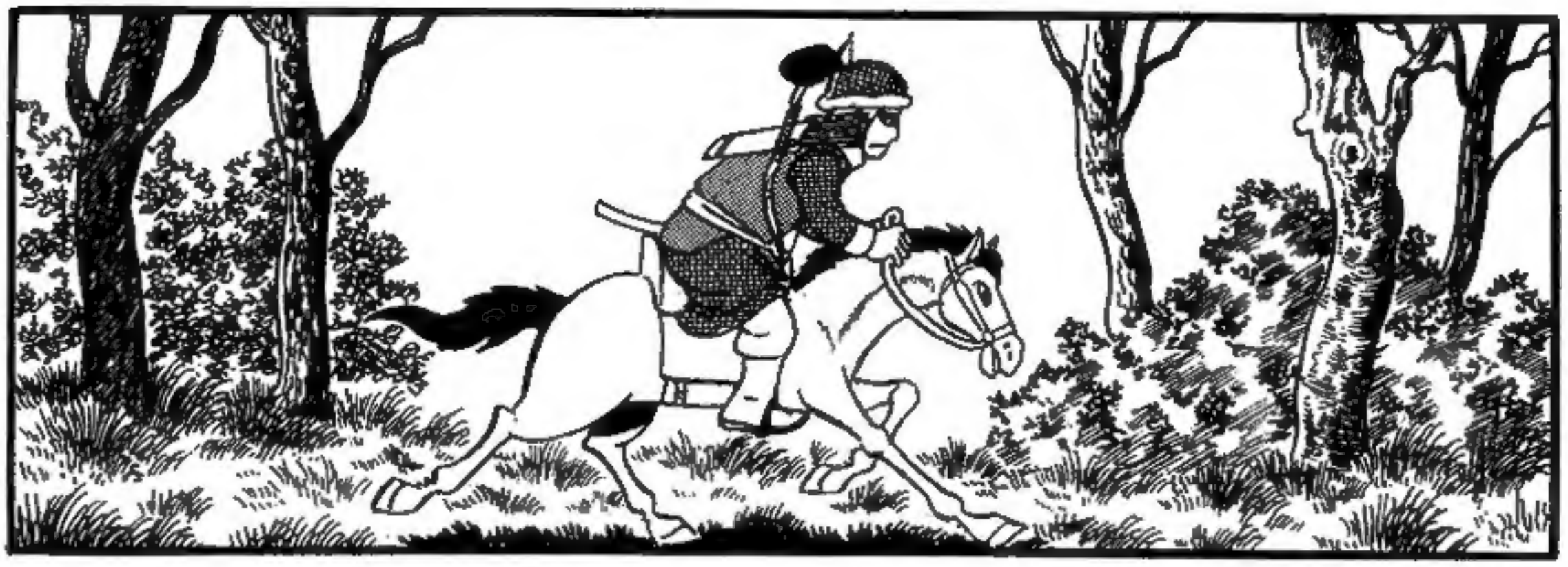

TEMUCHIN'S ARMY TOOK THE PATH THROUGH THE HILLS TO AVOID ALERTING THE TARTARS.

YES, KHAN.
CHILA'UN, GO SCOUT OUT THE ENEMY SITUATION.

HM...


THEY'VE SET UP DEFENSES ALL OVER TO PREPARE FOR THE JIN ATTACK...

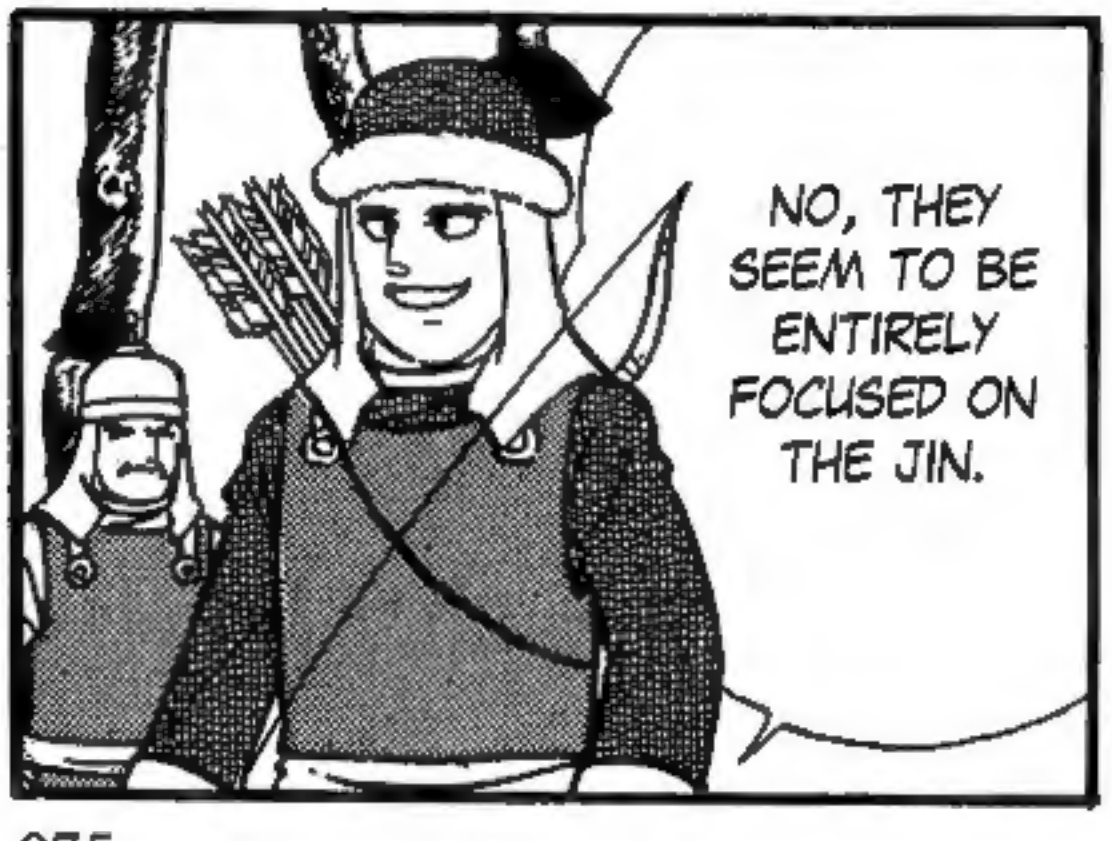


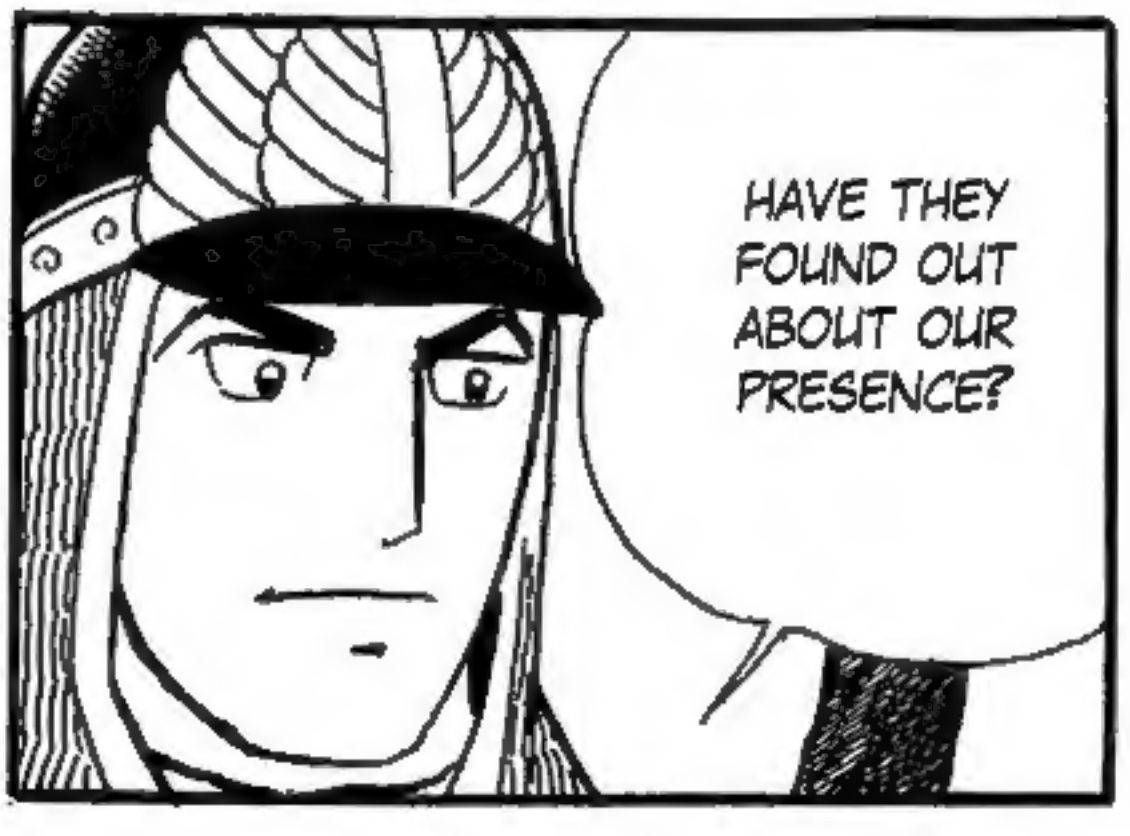


YES?

TEMUCHIN KHAN!

THEY'VE SET UP PALLISADES HERE AND THERE IN PREPARATION FOR THE JIN ASSAULT.


NO, THEY SEEM TO BE ENTIRELY FOCUSED ON THE JIN.


HAVE THEY FOUND OUT ABOUT OUR PRESENCE?

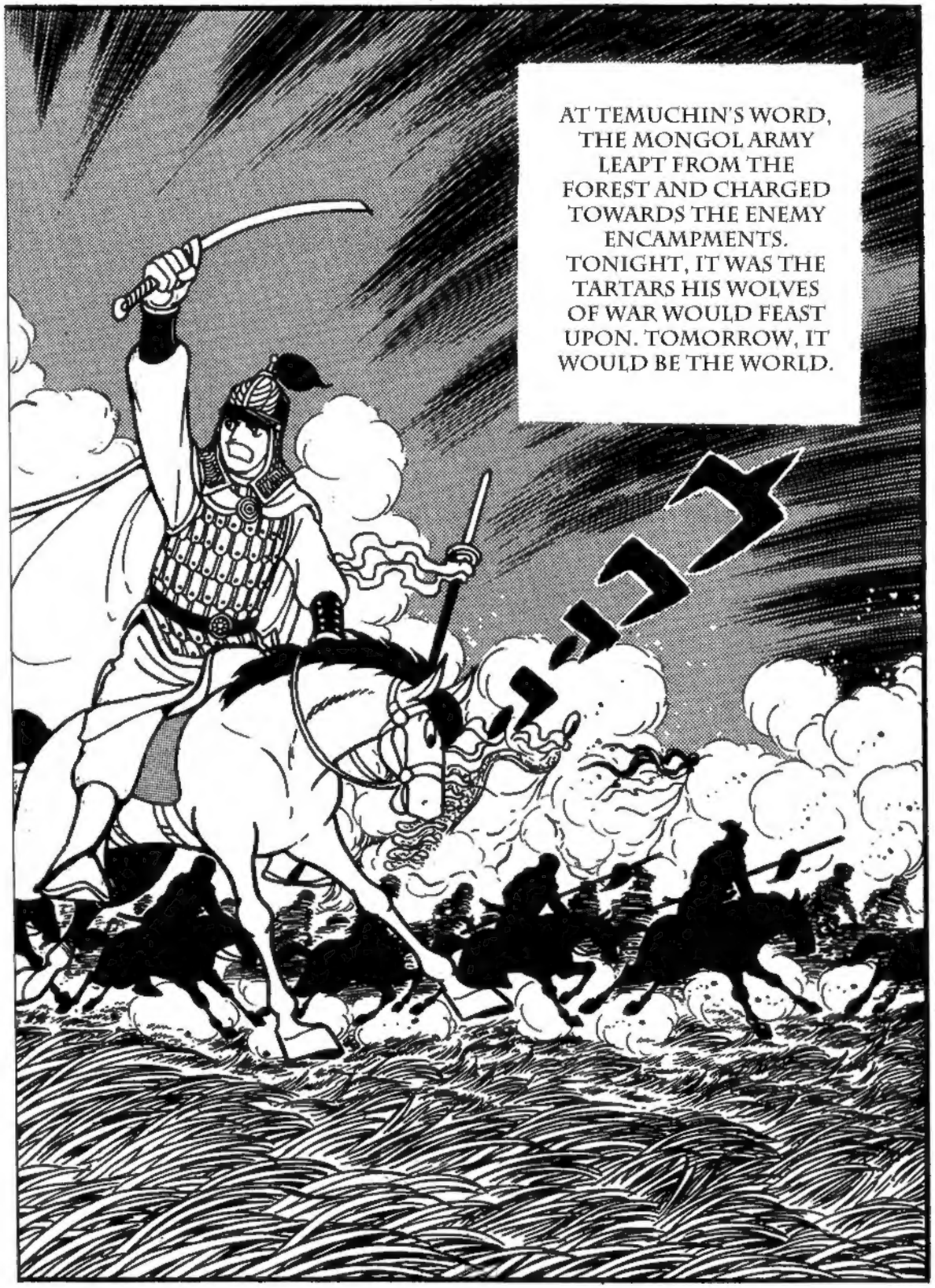
EVERYONE IS TO GET A GOOD REST AND FILL THEIR STOMACHS UNTIL THEN.

EXCELLENT. WE WILL ATTEMPT A SURPRISE ATTACK AT NIGHT THEN.

THE MONGOL FORCES WAITED IN THE FOREST WHILE EATING A LIGHT MEAL.

OUR ENEMIES TONIGHT ARE THE TARTAR YOKE, THE HATED ENEMIES OF OUR ANCESTORS FOR GENERATIONS! GIVE THEM NO QUARTER AND SLAUGHTER EVERYONE!

ATTACK!


AT TEMUCHIN'S WORD, THE MONGOL ARMY LEAPT FROM THE FOREST AND CHARGED TOWARDS THE ENEMY ENCAMPMENTS. TONIGHT, IT WAS THE TARTARS HIS WOLVES OF WAR WOULD FEAST UPON. TOMORROW, IT WOULD BE THE WORLD.